

## Labour chief warns left not to force election

Cledwyn Hughes, chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party, said yesterday that though the left was not united on precipitating a general election the danger remained. Mrs Maureen Colquhoun, a "Tribune" MP, accused Wilson and Mr Healey of behaving like political thugs.

## 'Tribune' MP likens leadership to thugs

George Clark  
Special Correspondent

Mr Cledwyn Hughes, chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party, said yesterday that he did not believe there was a united left-wing determination to precipitate a general election.

On the contrary, the broad view of the left is that they will wait for the Government to make a mistake. "Nevertheless, there is a danger of a general election being forced on us by the Government," he said.

Mr Hughes promised to bring Mrs Colquhoun's letter before the Liaison Committee at its next regular meeting on Wednesday. When many Labour backbenchers heard of the protest yesterday they thought that Mrs Colquhoun had overreacted to the speeches of Mr Wilson and Mr Healey.

Mrs Colquhoun said that, on election, a Labour MP would be elected to the House of Commons. She was given a copy of the letter which she had written to the Prime Minister and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in which she accused the Government of "outraging the public conscience" by its policy of "outraging the public conscience".

Mr Colquhoun said in a letter to Mr Wilson and Mr Healey: "I will not be a party to a policy which is so blatantly dishonest and so blatantly immoral."

He emerged clearly from the debates this week, Mr Hughes said, that the Conservative Government had no clear economic policy. An analysis of statements by Tory front-men showed that the public would be confused by the Government's policy. "The result, in terms of management, would be higher," he wrote.

The present delicate position of sterling would be affected by a general election, which would be a "major test" for the Government. "The more the Conservative Government are aware of the implications of their policy, the better they will be," he wrote.

Mr Colquhoun said the idea that her vote was automatically the property of the Labour Government was outdated. "After nearly 30 years' membership of the party, and two inside the House, I must tell you and the Liaison Committee that I am appalled by what I have seen of government and of the rottenness of parliamentary patronage," she said.

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Mr Nigel Forman, the new Tory MP for Sutton, Carshalton, being congratulated by constituents yesterday (Report, page 2).

## South African troops in Angola pull back nearer to border

Pretoria, March 12.—South African troops have evacuated part of the border area in southern Angola which they have occupied since last year, it was officially announced here tonight.

The South African forces have withdrawn from the town of Pereira d'Eca, the site of a refugee camp about 30 miles north of the border with Namibia (South-West Africa). Mr P. W. Botha, the Minister of Defence disclosed in a statement.

He explained that the withdrawal had been decided after all the refugees in southern Angola found by the Portuguese authorities to be acceptable for repatriation had left Angola.

It appeared, however, that other South African forces remain on Angolan soil close to the Namibian border, where they are guarding the Kuacava-Calueque hydroelectric complex, and remaining refugee camps.

Mr Botha said that the remaining refugees were now gathered in camps at Cuangar and Caldi, near the border, and the camps at Pereira d'Eca and Chitudo have been closed down.

The International Red Cross was trying to find a solution regarding the remaining refugees "within a couple of weeks", he added, meanwhile, the South African defence force was assisting with medical treatment and food supplies. —Agency France Presse.

Our Diplomatic Correspondent writes: Mr Wilson took the unusual course of calling Mr Lunov, the Soviet Ambassador, to Downing Street yesterday to impress upon him the Government's concern over foreign intervention in southern Africa.

The Prime Minister's main purpose was to emphasize his strong belief that all foreign intervention in the region, from whatever source, was likely to distort progress towards democratic freedom and cause unnecessary bloodshed and suffering, particularly in the area covering Rhodesia and its closest neighbours.

The timing of the meeting is explained by Mr Lunov's recent return from the Soviet Congress in Moscow, where Mr Brezhnev criticized the Soviet policy of supporting all liberation movements, as in Angola.

Whether the Prime Minister had an additional reason because of a further deterioration in prospects for a peaceful settlement in Rhodesia, is not known. The talks between Mr

Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, and Mr Joshua Nkomo, the African leader, are at a critical stage. What is certain is that previous representations by Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, who was also present at yesterday's meeting, have not had the slightest effect.

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## Union ban on imports of newsprint

By Christopher Thomas  
Labour Staff

An immediate ban on imports of newsprint from "non-traditional" countries was announced yesterday by Mr William Keys, general secretary of the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades (Sogat).

Mr Keys, a member of the TUC General Council, said at the TUC Women's Conference at Southampton that the aim was to prevent the demise of the British newspaper industry.

"Non-traditional" sources for Britain's newspaper industry included Spain, Portugal, Brazil and Rumania, he said later. Supplies from Scandinavian countries would not be affected.

Mr John Le Page, industrial relations director of the Newspaper Publishers Association, said to the best of his knowledge there were no imports from the countries affected by the ban. Most imports came from Scandinavia and Canada, and a smaller element from home production.

Mr Keys said that paper was being dumped on the British market "at prices which must be below cost". Five years ago 49 per cent of British newsprint consumption was from imports. Now the figure was 78 per cent. If that went on there would not be a newsprint mill in this country by the early 1980s.

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## Leaders of rail union accept peace formula

By Tim Jones  
Labour Staff

Widespread major industrial action on British Rail was averted last night after the executive of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (Aslef) decided to accept a peace formula that should ensure the restoration of services on the Eastern Region.

Mr Ray Buckton, the union's general secretary, and his negotiating team met British Railways Board officials during the day. They decided that the dispute, which has disrupted services since Monday, should be discussed fully at local level.

Mr Buckton said: "If they had not agreed with us there would have been trouble, but we have averted it."

He hoped his members at King's Cross would adhere to the executive's recommendation and decide on Monday to return to work.

Throughout the dispute, which began when a driver was sent home on Monday after refusing to work on reduced services which came in on March 1, Mr Buckton has condemned the management for what he called provocative action against his members.

Mr Buckton seemed satisfied yesterday with the progress he had made at the meeting, although the railways board would not agree to restore the cut services.

The union seemed satisfied that the dispute had been discussed, as it had demanded, at national level. It is recommended that the railways board should normally so that further talks can continue.

Services on Eastern Region continued to improve throughout yesterday. Only two of the 76 depots, King's Cross and Woking, were still involved in the unofficial industrial action.

Earlier, the railways board made clear that it had not agreed to restore services on the Eastern Region to the pre-March 1 level. That was one of the demands and will remain the subject of painstaking bargaining.

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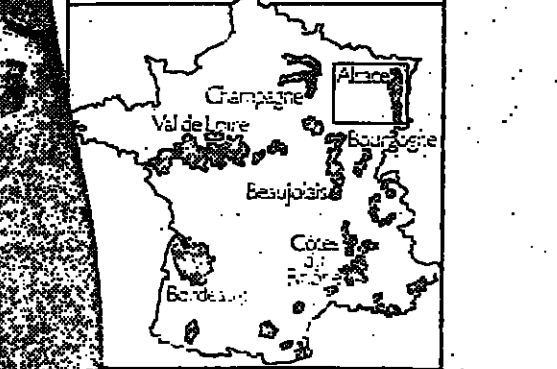
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## WEST EUROPE AND OVERSEAS

## Concession by Poland opens the way for Bonn to ratify accords

From Dan van der Vat  
Bonn, March 12

A last-minute concession by Poland over altering a word in the text of a letter persuaded the West German Government to drop its plan to block the ratification today of three treaties between Bonn and Warsaw.

The concession related to a letter from Herr Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, to Mr Olzowski, his Polish counterpart.

The original version, thrashed out in a marathon negotiating session earlier this week, said that after up to 125,000 ethnic Germans had been allowed to leave Poland by 1980, as provided for in one of the three pacts, "exit permits can be issued" to other members of Poland's German minority of 280,000.

The Opposition Christian Democrats (CDU) said they would reject the treaties unless the phrase were amended to read "will be issued". Late last night Mr Olzowski had agreed to this.

The Bundestag (Upper House), where the federal states are represented and the Opposition has a majority of 11, voted unanimously today in favour of the one agreement among the three that touched on states' rights and thereby removed the last obstacle to ratification.

Now only the signature of President Scheel and promulgation in the Federal Gazette, followed by the exchange of the instruments of ratification are required.

The vote saved not only the Government's policy of reconciliation with Poland; it rescued the Opposition from an embarrassing situation. By using its voting strength in the Bundestag, it could have brought on a constitutional crisis.

The treaties cover emigration of ethnic Germans, a credit of DM1,000m (£200m) to Poland, and the payment of DM1,300m to Warsaw to settle pension claims.

Because the last agreement involves regionally-based social insurance societies and also work by employees of the state governments, the consent of the Bundestag was held to be necessary.

The Christian Democrats' main objection related to the emigration treaty, which did not require Upper House approval. They were in danger, therefore, of appearing to wreck the entire package on a technicality by rejecting the pension deal (to which it did not object) in a vote which was no business of the Bundestag at all.

This would have been a

propaganda gift to the Government and would have ensured that the prospects of a change of coalition partner by the Free Democrats, who are now sharing power with the Social Democrats, receded much further into the future than it now lies.

No sooner had the result of the voting been announced, however, than it was revealed that the Christian Social Union executive, meeting in Munich, had rejected the treaties unanimously, but had failed to contact the Bavarian Prime Minister before he cast the state's five votes for the package. The CSU is the Bavarian wing of the CDU.

The CSU, which precipitated the Opposition's original decision to obstruct the treaties, thus demonstrated with extra-ordinary timing that the CDU-CSU alliance remains at least as uneasy as that between Social Democrats and Free Democrats, a handsome consolation prize to the Government after all its difficulties over Poland.

The Opposition used its Bundestag majority today to delay a Government Bill liberalising West Germany's extremely strict abortion law by remitting the draft to the Liaison Committee of Bundestag and Bundestag. The CDU-CSU alliance objects to the law because it regards it as too lax.

An earlier Bill allowing abortion on demand in the first three months of pregnancy was quashed by the Federal Constitutional Court as an infringement of the constitution's guarantee of the right to life.

The present Bill, which will probably become law with some modifications in summer, permits abortion on a number of social and health grounds.

Warsaw, March 12—Poland officially welcomed the ratification by the Bundestag of the Polish-West German agreements as highly important for the two nations as well as for the rest of Europe.

A Government spokesman said: "The Polish side believes that the complete implementation of the agreements and honest fulfilment of their provisions will help to overcome barriers of the past and to shape new relations between the two nations."

Poland had from the beginning taken an unequivocal view that full implementation of the Gierk-Schmidt agreement might be the only basis for further normalisation of relations with West Germany.

The spokesman described "normalization" as "important for the détente and for the development of European co-operation".—AP.

Leading article, page 15

## £6m Dutch bribes to Argentines alleged

From Sue Masterman  
The Hague, March 12

A Dutch Cabinet Minister and the Netherlands Central Bank approved a £6m bribe paid by a Dutch rolling stock manufacturer to numbered Swiss bank accounts belonging to Argentine officials, including the late President Juan Peron, the Amsterdam newspaper *De Telegraaf* alleged today.

In order to clinch a £130m order, negotiated on government instigation, partially by Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands, the firm is said to have agreed to pay the bribe. The transaction was first approved by a member of the Dutch Cabinet, led at the time of the order in 1951 by Dr Willem Drees, and by the director of the Netherlands Bank. The director of the bank in turn obtained approval from the bank's president, Dr Marius Holtrop, Dr Drees today denied that he knew of an approval for the bribe.

Dr Holtrop, who is 73, was president of the Netherlands Bank from 1945 to 1967. He is now a member of the Council of State, a "wise man" appointed last month by the Dutch Government to investigate allegations that Prince Bernhard had received \$1.1m (£550,000) in bribes from the Lockheed Corporation.

The firm involved, Werkspoor, now part of the VNF concern, is also alleged to have given President Peron a luxury private train, and presented his wife Evita with jewelry worth £6,000.

The alleged bribe is said to have been deducted by Werkspoor from its profits before tax. The State Secretary for Finance has confirmed recently that firms may deduct bribes without disclosing to whom they have been paid. They have only to convince the Inland Revenue that the bribe was necessary to complete the transaction. However, attempts to bribe Dutch civil servants, local or central government officials or members of Parliament are an offence.

Dr Holtrop returned to The Netherlands today from Washington. A statement from the commission of three wise men said that he had called to the new Dutch president, to the chairman of the United States Security and Exchange Commission, and to representatives of the Department of Justice and the State Department.

The commission will take full advantage of all possible opportunities to speed up the work which have to be done in the talks, the statement said. Its final report is expected towards the end of April, or possibly later.

## Opposition call for coalition in Spain

From Our Correspondent  
Madrid, March 12

A prominent Opposition politician, Professor Enrique Irujo, has called for the immediate establishment of a national coalition government as the only solution to Spain's grave political problems.

The professor, who is head of the illegal Popular Socialist Party, said at a news conference in Madrid last night that all the democratic political forces in the country, including the Spanish Communist Party, should get together to form a coalition government.

"The current wave of protests exists because the Government has a political, social, and economic crisis," he said. "It is the duty of all democratic forces to unite to achieve a reconciliation."

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## Meeting of European socialists rouses objections in Portugal

From Jose Shercliff  
Lisbon, March 12

It has been impossible so far to build a democratic state on the ruins of the old regime, according to Senator Francisco Salgado Zenha, the Portuguese Finance Minister.

He said at a luncheon given by the diplomatic corps in Lisbon that Portugal was moving towards "a democratic state, a government chosen by the people, and a plan of independent economic and social justice."

He emphasized the importance of decentralization and said that neither the former monarchy, nor the republic, nor the dictatorship, had had a real economic policy.

He attacked the sixth provisional Government of which he is a member as a government of compromise, a government of compromise, a government of compromise.

The government settled for a policy of compromise which was not always respected and was even questioned by the parties supporting it. There is not a democratic state in the modern sense of the word, which reduces the efficacy of the government. The sixth Government is a government of compromise until the elections. Sometimes one has the impression that it thinks more of the elections than of governing."

The meeting is under attack from home and abroad. Dr Sa Carneiro, the Popular Democratic Party leader, told the press that he had never before heard of a Portuguese political party organizing an internal political party meeting on the eve of an election. His party is organizing a rally in Oporto tomorrow.

The Portuguese newspapers carry a denunciation by the Soviet newspaper *Pravda* of the meeting as socialist and social democratic interference in Portugal's internal affairs.

Strikes are spreading throughout Portugal. Nurses went on strike today and will attend only urgent cases. In Oporto, a "free ride" strike is in progress on public transport, as bus conductors are not accepting payment.

Shop assistants are striking over the weekend in Evora and Oporto. The strike at the Firestone company, during which discounts were asked for a time by the workers, goes on.

The editor of the Lisbon morning newspaper *O Seculo*, Comodoro Eduardo Scarlati, is reported to have resigned because of internal administrative difficulties. Senator Manuel Magro, the assistant editor, succeeds him.

Dr Mario Soares, the secretary of the Portuguese Socialist Party, told *The Times* that he had invited Mr Callaghan, the British Foreign Secretary, but

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## Former ally describes Col Gaddafi as 'tyrant'

From Our Correspondent  
Cairo, March 12

Colonel Gaddafi, the leader, has been described as a former close ally as who had detested a revolution of September 1963, which ousted a monarchy.

Major Omar Mehdi, member of Libya's Revolutionary Command Council, is a political refugee said in an interview Cairo semi-official *Al-Ahram*.

"Gaddafi individualistic tyrant deviated from the revolution," he said, "not tolerating opposition to his wrong."

Major Mehdi is a senior Libyan official, close to Colonel Gaddafi. He said that Colonel Gaddafi had tried more than once to assassinate him, Al-Ahram reported, and accused Gaddafi of ordering the assassination of hundreds of Libyan officials because they were not loyal to Gaddafi's methods.

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## Long terms sought for Moluccans

From Our Correspondent  
The Hague, March 12

Sentences ranging from 12 to 18 years were sought by the public prosecutor at the close of the case against the seven young South Moluccans who admit hijacking a train last December. Two hostages and the train driver died during the 13-day siege.

The judges will give their verdict on the charges of murder and manslaughter on March 26.

Young South Moluccans from communities close to the provincial town of Assen, where the trial was held, flooded into the town centre after the prosecutor's words had been made public. They held an emotional demonstration in protest against what they see as the Dutch Government's failure to recognize their political aims.

The 33,000 Moluccans in The Netherlands, exiled more than 25 years ago from islands which now form part of Indonesia,

demand that the Dutch honour the promise made at the time to return them to an independent republic of their own.

The prosecution stated in a final speech that the guilt of the seven young men was established. Each had admitted fully his own role in the planning of the hijacking and the death of the victims. Sentences of 18 years were demanded for Jan Salmima, aged 25, and Eliza Hahury, aged 24, both of whom claimed the main responsibility for the execution of two hostages. Mr Hahury is a nephew of Dr Chris Soumokil, President of the short-lived independent South Moluccan Republic in 1967.

Speaking in defence of the accused Dr Jan Manusama, president of the South Moluccan Republic in exile, told the court that the ideal of the independent republic was difficult to understand outside the Moluccan community. "It is like a

stained glass window," he said. "Outside you can see the pattern, but only from the inside can you see the beauty."

Psychologists' reports read in court described the accused as mentally sound, but fanatically occupied with the ideal of the return to an independent republic. None of the hostages were called as witnesses by the prosecution, but two, chosen by the others as their representatives, appeared in the defence. Many of the surviving hostages have maintained close contacts with the relatives of the hijackers, and some say they will visit them in jail.

Another group of seven young Moluccans will stand trial on March 23 in Amsterdam. They stormed the Indonesian Consulate and held hostages there. One consulate employee died after jumping from a window. Moluccans have threatened more violence if the courts treat the case as criminal rather than political.

## Christian Democrat move against abortion Bill

From Our Correspondent  
Rome, March 12

A national referendum on abortion this spring has become a strong possibility after a stiffening of Christian Democrat resistance to the Abortion Bill now before Parliament.

The prospects of a referendum have in turn increased the possibility of a general election called partly to avoid this highly divisive and potentially disruptive event. The Christian Democrats risk an even greater defeat than in the 1974 referendum on divorce.

The Christian Democrat mem-

bers of Parliament last night voted for a motion that abortion should always be regarded as a crime.

The move, which came after demands by *L'Espresso* magazine, the Vatican radio and other Catholic sources for a tougher stand from the Christian Democrats, virtually destroys all chances of parliamentary agreement on a new law on abortion.

Unless Parliament can approve a Bill within the next few weeks the referendum will automatically be held.

## Nato staff plan 'desk-in' over pay allowances

From Our Own Correspondent  
Brussels, March 12

Nato's 1,200 permanent civil servants are threatening to stop work next week unless their demands for increases in cost-of-living allowances are met. They insist that the action they are contemplating should not be called a strike; they would sit at their desks, but not work.

The staff (excluding diplomats, military personnel and employees of national delegations) have told the management, which consists of the 15 member-governments of the alliance, that they want full compensation for rises in the cost of living.

Until July last year, every five-point rise in the cost of living index was reflected in a corresponding increase in the allowances paid to Nato staff. Member governments saw that in the present inflationary climate they are prepared to pay only partial compensation.

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## European unity sought on whensummer starts

From Our Parliamentary Staff  
Strasbourg, March 12

The European Commission's proposals for the first steps towards uniform Summer Time arrangements in the EEC are to be put to the Council of Ministers today.

The Commission has suggested that, from the next three years, a day and time should be set for the beginning and end of Summer Time. It has been concerned about the confused situation, in which four countries apply Summer Time for the different periods this year.

Ireland and Britain have decided to stop Summer Time from March to October 24 in 1976, compared with March 28











# Body building value of British milk

A resolution was carried inviting the Commission to report to Parliament by January 1, 1973, at the latest on the repercussions on the consumption of milk of the move to harmonize its fat content. The resolution acted with satisfaction that the Commission proposed to investigate the effects of harmonizing on price, consumer habits, and the taste and nutritional value of milk.

Mrs Cwyneth Danwady (U.K. Crews, Lobl sold milk in Britain was neverly always of a higher fat content than the figure (3.5 per cent) at which standardization was to be fixed. Although in British drank milk in its natural form and it was important to themselves that the taste should be that of natural milk.

There is was said who have been drinking milk on their lives and have had to show that it, know well that it is the quality of the milk, the taste and price, that affect how many pints are sold every day.







## Clive Barnes/Copenhagen Notebook Celebrations of the body

never happened to Woon-  
Copenhagen, Hans  
Andersen and Danny  
? When did it all  
go—where was that loss  
of sense? You may well ask?

First went to Copenhagen  
At that time a well-  
known columnist in Denmark  
called Bent Schou-  
man, who later, as things  
went, got fed up with being  
a columnist and became a mil-  
lionsaire selling old people's  
houses in the South of  
France. However, at the time  
was just another working  
journalist and I recall him tak-  
ing me to a night club, at that  
one of Copenhagen's few  
night places. As we  
went he apologized slightly  
explaining that this was  
of course, Paris and there  
is no striptease or any-  
thing like that. I replied that I  
for a moment expected  
to be even "anything  
like that", for after all this  
Copenhagen.

22 years a lot can happen,  
a lot did. For a time  
Copenhagen took over from  
Paris as the porno-centre  
of the civilized world, a title it  
lost first to Stockholm,  
eventually, of course, to  
old New York. However,  
were the days of glory,  
the live exhibition, and  
national sauna/bathhouse  
were the talk of  
the city. But Copenhagen could  
stick to it—the Danes  
too much a sense of  
humour and the ridiculous to  
allow serious contenders in  
porno business. Pornogra-  
phy demands a deadly serious-  
ness to it that Copenhagen  
cannot muster, at least  
very long. They start to  
lose.

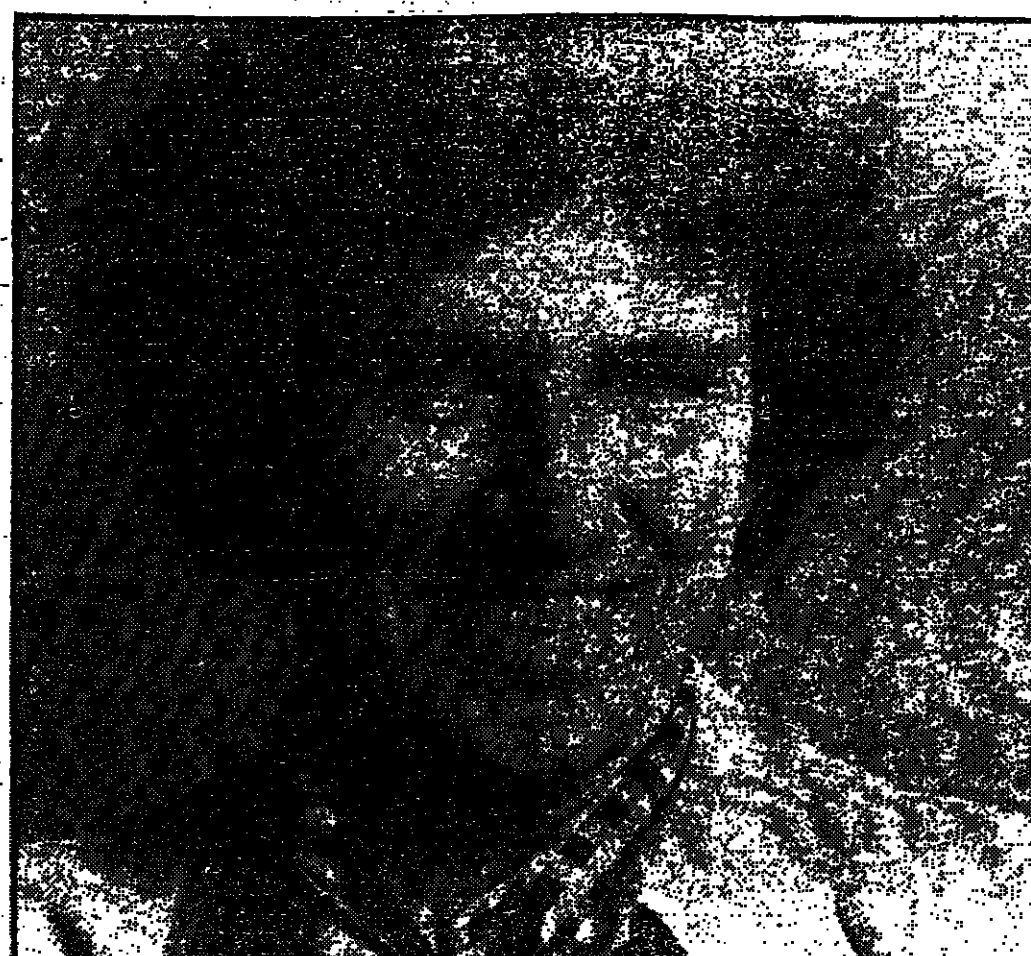
There may be another rea-  
son for the undercurrent of  
grumpiness. This is the old  
tale, or perhaps it is a  
tale of hygge. What is  
hygge? It is virtually  
untranslatable Danish  
word, which means loosely  
"cosiness" or "in-  
ner peace". And it is im-  
mortal to much, cosiness, a  
little of straightforward porno-  
graphy is the concept of hygge  
which means it seems  
"cosy" and it is all  
about women. But in-  
terestingly, because this  
hygge, it is not simply  
OR, Calcutta! or Let  
people Come. For it is

staged by Flemming Flindt,  
who is the director of the  
Royal Danish Ballet, is playing  
at the Ny Teater, which is  
Copenhagen's second most im-  
portant state theatre, and has  
been written by, among others,  
Knud Poulsen, who is the  
director of the State Theatre.  
And it has many of its leading  
roles performed by dancers  
from the Royal Danish Ballet,  
all completely nude. This by  
the way is a state of stage  
nude, that is not completely  
unknown to dancers of the  
Royal Danish Ballet, which  
says something about hygge  
and something about the Royal  
Danish Ballet.

It starts quite  
sensationally—with Vivi Flindt,  
the wife of the director, stand-  
ing with, well, her back to the  
audience. She is wearing two  
red-and-white-striped stockings,  
a floppy hat with flowers on it  
and an insouciant manner. She  
turns round and starts to  
dance and is soon joined by  
the other cast members, first  
the women and then the men.  
Why do women look so much  
better naked? Unfortunately  
when you see our gender  
nude—and this is a sadly  
objective remark—the answer  
is obvious. God must have  
created woman second because  
he did such a much better job  
on the anatomy.

It is difficult to understand  
very much of the revue with-  
out speaking Danish, because  
although I was thoughtfully  
provided with a synopsis of  
some of the monologues and  
sketches in English, obviously  
not all of the flavour can  
emerge without a knowledge of  
Danish.

There were, however, some  
aspects of the show that  
emerged quite clearly—the  
poetry, for instance, of a sinis-  
terly by to be seen in the new  
Royal Danish Ballet. It is now  
10 years since Flindt became  
its artistic director and 10  
years since the company last  
appeared in New York, where  
it is having a season at the  
Metropolitan Opera House in  
May. During that decade  
Flindt has put his mark on the  
company and, oddly enough, it  
is very similar to the artistic  
imprint of *Gorgeous Bitch*, a  
mixture of that Danish hygge  
and a certain sexuality. The  
older element is represented  
by Bournonville, that recon-  
structured nineteenth-century  
Romantic repertoire. The com-  
pany has just restored Bournonville's *La Sylphide* to the rep-  
ertory and I saw the last act of  
the evening. It looks much  
the same as it always did but I



Flemming Flindt: a major contribution to Danish ballet.

the word because the revue  
does touch upon some of the  
darker sides of sex, but chiefly  
it is a celebration of sexuality  
rather than an investigation.  
Something of this same sexual-  
ity is to be seen in the new  
Royal Danish Ballet. It is now  
10 years since Flindt became  
its artistic director and 10  
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ertory and I saw the last act of  
the evening. It looks much  
the same as it always did but I

was much impressed with the  
quality of the younger men in  
the company—but then the  
Danes have never lacked for  
male dancers.  
Something of this same sexual-  
ity is to be seen in the new  
Royal Danish Ballet. It is now  
10 years since Flindt became  
its artistic director and 10  
years since the company last  
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pany has just restored Bournonville's *La Sylphide* to the rep-  
ertory and I saw the last act of  
the evening. It looks much  
the same as it always did but I

edly small progress in dance.  
Yes, to be sure there has been  
considerable use of nudity by  
various avant-garde groups,  
and the Netherlands Dance  
Theatre has also experimented  
with it, but nudity in such a  
staid, venerable and classic com-  
pany as the Royal Danish Ballet  
is much more unexpected.  
And yet in a work such as  
Flindt's *Hygge*—inspired by  
*The Triumph of Death*—it is used  
quite unselfconsciously for spe-  
cific dramatic effect.  
Unselfconsciousness is the  
word. The Danes have over the  
years broken through prurience  
and pornography, acquiring  
along the route a far more  
healthy regard for their  
bodies, and this is seen as  
much in the ballet as in a  
revue such as *Gorgeous Bitch*.  
One wonders what Bournon-  
ville would have done—would  
he have danced a tarantella or  
gone into exile? Personally, I  
think tumbourines would have  
been called for.

## The Times humorous story competition

There is a fortnight to go  
before the closing date of the  
Jonathan Cape/Times Satur-  
day Review Humorous Story  
Competition.

● A prize of £500 is offered  
for the best original and pre-  
viously unpublished story,  
maximum length 4,000 words,  
submitted by March 31.

● £200 goes to the runner-up.

● The winning stories will be  
published in *The Times*  
Saturday Review, and it is  
hoped that these and other  
entries will form the basis of  
an anthology to be published  
by Cape later this year.

● Scripts must be typed in  
double spacing on one side  
of the paper and sent to  
*The Times* Humorous Story  
Competition, Times News-  
papers Limited, 12 Colley  
Street, London WC9 9YT.

● Pseudonyms may be used,  
although actual names and  
addresses must also be sup-  
plied. Stories submitted will  
in no circumstances be re-  
turned to competitors and it  
is therefore important to  
ensure that a copy is retained  
by the author.

● Entries arriving after the  
end of March will not be  
considered.

● Material must be free for  
possible publication by *The*  
*Times* and for inclusion in a  
Cape anthology.

● It is hoped that the prize-  
winners will be announced by  
midsummer.

## Cinema Dubliners at the pictures

to relate, but true: the  
regular cinema in Dublin  
fired by James Joyce, no  
it happened so: in 1909  
was scraping a living  
ng English in Trieste, and  
is intimate company with  
Nora Barnacle. It seems  
e been Miss Barnacle who  
fired his attention to the  
har all the Continental  
they visited had moving  
theatres while Ireland  
ne; and Joyce thereupon  
ted a group of Italian  
men in the idea of  
g films to the Irish

warehouse was quickly  
ver, as the custom was  
e early days, and in  
er, 1909, they opened  
the Picture Theatre in  
street. Joyce engaged a  
al wizard, Lennie Col-  
struggle with a pro-  
hat even for those days  
loured (it had no take-  
the film just ran off  
a tank beneath the  
r). Mr Collette is still  
alive to tell this tale,  
hy, witty man of 87  
otes Tolstoy and Tur-  
as well as *Finnegans*  
which he has practically  
t; and it was he who  
opened the Dublin  
Festival exhibition,  
Ireland, 1895-1976.

is the ideal demonstra-  
the exhibition as crea-  
m and propaganda ges-  
turers together a  
supremely coherent  
to create an historical  
hat could never be so  
ly narrated in any  
m; and it chafes the  
r their neglect in con-  
so rarely to the art  
film without ever suc-  
in creating a proper  
tema. The exhibition's  
Liam O'Loachaire—  
recor, writer, historian,  
d unnamed Irishman,  
d preaching the same  
for at least 40 years.

35 when he was one of  
iders of the Irish Film  
and was nearly run  
in Dublin. *The Battleship*  
to Dublin.  
first film people to be  
by the Irish scene,  
e and above all the in-  
ly photogenic light  
was recently revealed  
Stanley Kubrick in  
idion were the Kalem  
of Chicago. Led by  
tor Sidney Olcott, they  
ved in 1910, and came  
summer after summer  
First World War, to  
as like Romy O'More,  
een Bawn, Ireland. *The*  
d, *Shannon the Post* and  
Fogues. Again there is  
ible living link: Miss  
Sullivan who was their  
in *Beaufort*, County  
and used to play the  
n for the flicker folk  
is still living, and re-  
of the exhibition her-  
of film-making 65

S James Mark Sullivan,  
journalist and diplo-  
mat from America who  
became a People's Artist  
of the Soviet Union; the late  
Alexander Arkharovich Row,

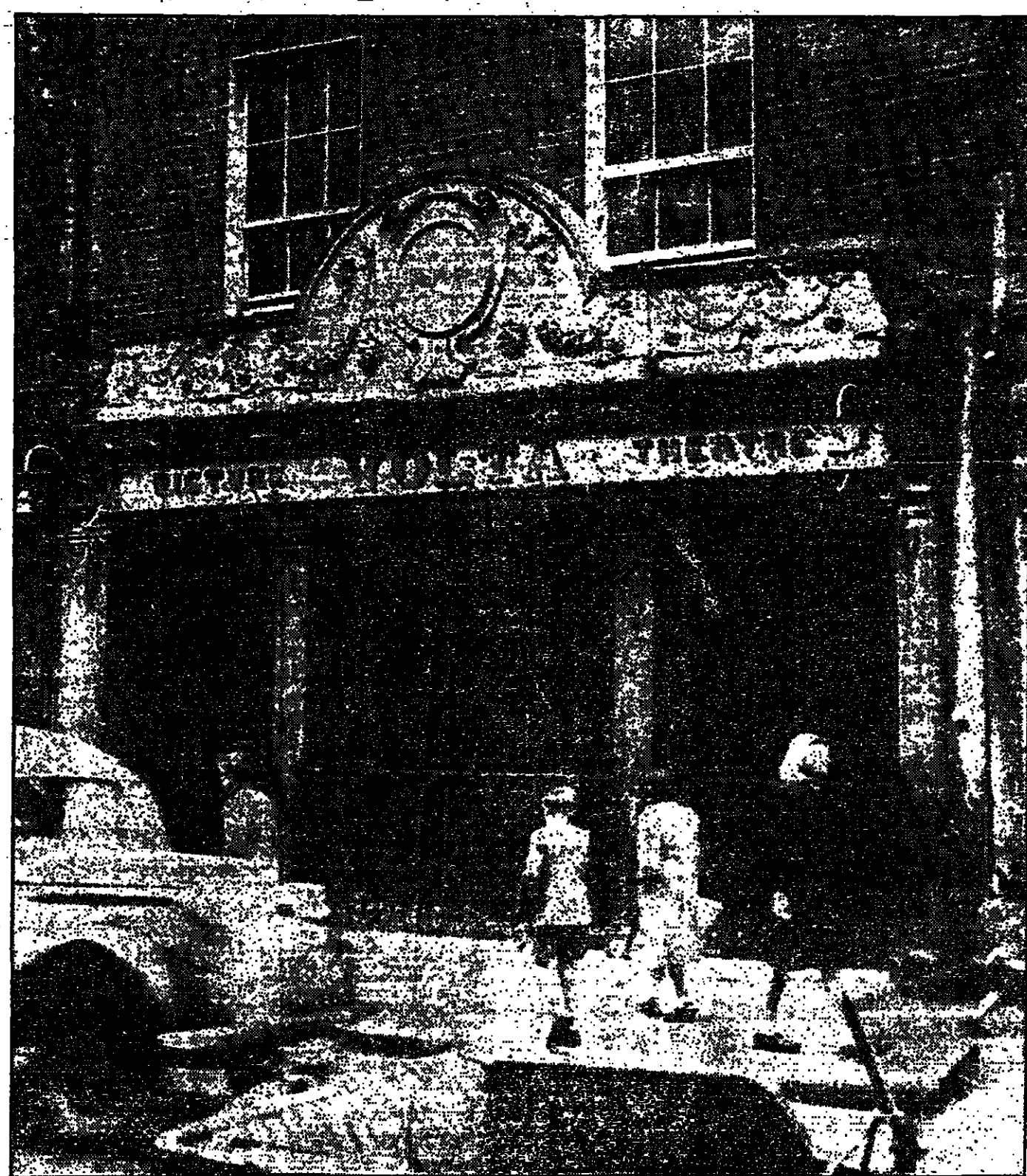
different times condemned to  
death by the British, but sur-  
vived and remain actively  
engaged in *The Troubles*:  
under cover of shooting their  
once celebrated *Willy Reilly*  
and *His Colleen Bawn*, they  
made an appeal film for the  
1919 Irish Republican Loan.

In those dangerous and  
exciting times" recalled its  
director, John McDonagh, "no  
cinema owner would dare risk  
showing the Republican Loan  
films, so it was planned for a  
few volunteers in fast cars to  
visit certain cinemas, rush the  
operator's box, and, as gun-  
point, force the operator to take  
off the film he was showing,  
and put on the Loan Film." The  
British never caught up with  
them, and the loss of this and  
a mass of other actuality film  
shot by Irish and foreign  
cameramen in those eventful  
years is due only to a neglig-  
ence towards their own history  
quite uncharacteristic of the  
Irish. How rich was this docu-  
mentary material has compara-  
tively recently been revealed in  
the now-classic compilations of  
George Morrison, *Miss Eire* and  
*Sadiree*.

The exhibition recalls later  
sporadic attempts at film-  
making in Ireland. In the silent  
era there were Norman White-  
ten's *The Days of St Patrick*,  
John Hurley's *Land of Her*  
*Fathers*, Dr Eppel's *Irish*  
*Destiny* and William Powers's  
*Rosaleen Dhu*. Ireland's first  
sound film was Victor Haddock's  
*The Voice of Ireland*. Brian  
Desmond Hurst battled to make  
Irish films, including *Irish*  
*Hearts and Riders to the Sea*;  
Frank Borzage came from Holly-  
wood to use Irish actors in *Song*  
*of My Heart* and *Wings of the*  
*Morning*. Mostly, though, the  
players are a good deal better  
remembered than the films:  
Michael MacLiammoir, Barry  
Fitzgerald, Sarah Allgood,  
Jimmy O'Dea, Maureen Delaney,  
Una Shiels, Cyril Cosack, Jack  
McGovern, Siobhan McKenna,  
Don O'Herlihy.

Ireland and its wealth of  
actors have continued to attract  
film-makers from other coun-  
tries. The Ardmore studios were  
opened in 1938 and have been  
used by directors like Francis  
Ford Coppola, Robert Altman,  
Blake Edwards, John Huston,  
Peter Glenville, John Ford,  
Anthony Harvey and Carol  
Reed. After some years, when  
the studios have just been  
renamed the National Studios  
of Ireland. Could this be the  
foundation for a properly  
established Irish film industry?

The trouble remains, of  
course, Ireland's over-prodigious  
contribution to other people's  
film industries. Way back, the  
assistant to Dr Jules Etienne  
Marey, the French physiologist  
who made a key contribution  
to the invention of the cinema,  
was an Irishman, Lucien Bull.  
Professor Bull, world-renowned  
for his pioneering work in  
high-speed photography, nar-  
rowly missed celebrating his  
own centenary this year: he  
died in Paris in 1972.  
Liam O'Loachaire has even  
found an Irish film-maker who  
became a People's Artist of  
the Soviet Union: the late  
Alexander Arkharovich Row,



James Joyce's Volta Picture Theatre, photographed by Liam O'Loachaire shortly before demolition.

who made some of the best-  
loved Soviet children's films,  
including *The Little Tump*,  
backed *Horse* (1941) was the  
son of a Wexford miller, and  
still has a lot of cousins—  
called Rowe—living down there.  
Hollywood, of course, always  
reckoned to be made up of  
the Cohens and the Kellys. The  
Kellys' first and second  
generations Irishmen, included  
Kex Ingram, who created the  
Valentino legend with *The Four*  
*Horsemen of the Apocalypse*,  
Herbert Brenon, John Ford,  
Raoul and George Walsh, Mar-  
shall Neilan, George Fitz-

Maurice and Herbert Wilcox.  
The roll-call of Irish actors in  
Hollywood is endless.  
The exhibition, with a proper  
Irish bent for anecdote, still  
manages to spring some sur-  
prises. The exotic Latin vamp  
of the 1920s, Nita Naldi was,  
it appears, really called  
Anita Dooley. She first  
encountered the literary hon-  
or of the day, Blasco Ibañez, at a  
party, and as a good Irish  
Catholic girl upbraided him  
roundly for his treatment of  
the Church. The argument  
became so heated that the  
great man's false teeth flew

out and straight down Miss  
Naldi's corset. Without paus-  
ing for breath, Ibañez plunged  
his hand into the corset, re-  
trieved his teeth and clapped  
them back into his mouth.  
Evidently the experience had  
made an impression upon him,  
however, for he insisted that  
Miss Naldi should star oppo-  
site Rudolph Valentino in the  
film of his novel *Blood and*  
*Sand*.  
This scholarly, entertaining  
and unexpectedly passionate  
exhibition must surely provide  
the Irish with a rallying point,  
if not for a whole immediate

concept of a national film in-  
dustry, at least for the creation  
of an Irish film museum. When  
so much rare and valuable epi-  
thet material—posters, photo-  
graphs, fragmentary pro-  
grammes, drawings and docu-  
ments—have been conjured  
from out of nowhere with such  
effort it would be a disgrace  
to the country if they were  
simply dissipated and returned  
at the close of the Dublin Arts  
Festival to the mercy of chance  
and time.

David Robinson

## ENTERTAINMENTS

ALSO ON PAGES 10 and 11



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Kensington, SW7 2AP

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Tel: 01-589 8212

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**BRAHMS: A GERMAN REQUIEM**

MENDELSSOHN: Italian Symphony  
Rae Woodland (soprano) John Archer (baritone)  
LONDON CHORAL SOCIETY ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA  
Conductor: Leva Lovatt  
Tickets: £2.50, £2.25, £1.75, £1.00, 50p from Box Office (01-589 8212)

VICTOR HOCHHAUSER presents

**TOMORROW at 7.30**

OVERTURE: OBERON WEBER  
ROMEO & JULIET TCHAIKOVSKY  
PIANO CONCERTO in A minor GRIEG  
'NEW WORLD' SYMPHONY DVORAK  
NEW PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA  
SHMUEL FRIDMAN DANIEL ADNI  
4.50, 7.00, £1.00, £1.50, £2.00, £2.50 (01-589 8212). Open tomorrow 10 a.m.



DE KOS presents SATURDAY NEXT, 20th MARCH, at 7.30

**JEROME ROSE**

OVERTURE: ROMAN CARNIVAL BERLIOZ  
PIANO CONCERTO in A minor, Op. 54 SCHUMANN  
OVERTURE: PRELUDE to Act 1—LOEWS WAGNER  
SYMPHONY No. 4 in F minor, Op. 36 TCHAIKOVSKY  
ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

**RICHARD DUFALLO**

Tickets: £2.50, £2.00, £1.50, £1.00, 70p, 50p from Box Office (01-589 8212)  
Also from DJS & TIDELIT (01-262 5418) & Agents.

VICTOR HOCHHAUSER presents SATURDAY, 27th MARCH, at 7.30

**TCHAIKOVSKY**

Swan Lake Piano Concerto No. 1  
Nutcracker Suite Marche Slave  
OVERTURE "1812" 2 MILITARY BANDS  
Cannon and Mortar Effects ROYAL ALBERT HALL ORGAN  
ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA  
BANDS OF THE SCOTS GUARDS and THE WELSH GUARDS  
JAMES HOWE LOUIS KENTNER  
Tickets: 4.50, 7.00, £1.00, £1.50, £2.00, £2.50 (01-589 8212) & Agents.



INTERNATIONAL CELEBRITY

CONCERT

SUNDAY, 28th MARCH, at 7.30

**VIENNA**

**PHILHARMONIC**

**ORCHESTRA**

Conductor:

**KARL BÖHM**

**BEETHOVEN**

Symphony No. 4 in B flat Symphony No. 3, "Eroica"  
Tickets available from Royal Albert Hall Box Office (01-589 8212) & Agents.

VICTOR HOCHHAUSER presents

SUNDAY, 4 APRIL at 7.30

Overture: Barber of Seville ROSSINI  
Piano Concerto No 2 in C minor RACHMANINOV  
Scheherazade RIMSKY KORSAKOV  
Polovtsian Dances BORODIN  
ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA  
ATV OSTROWSKY CLAUDE KAHN  
Tickets: 4.50, 7.00, £1.00, £1.50, £2.00, £2.50 (01-589 8212) & Agents.

VICTOR HOCHHAUSER presents

SUNDAY, 11 APRIL, at 7.30

**VIENNESE NIGHT**

BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA  
BANDS OF THE SCOTS GUARDS and THE WELSH GUARDS  
MUSKETEERS OF THE ROYAL ARTILLERY  
Conductor: VILEM TAUSKY  
Mornings, Noon & Night Supper  
Die Lilien Johann Strauss  
Eine kleine Nachtmusik Mozart  
Voice of Spring Johann Strauss  
Hungarian Polka Johann Strauss  
Waltz: Blue Danube Johann Strauss  
Radecky March Johann Strauss  
Hedwig's Waltz Johann Strauss  
Gipsy Baron Johann Strauss  
Thunder & Lightning Johann Strauss

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## Wigmore Hall

Manager: William Lyne 36 Wigmore Street W1 Box Office 01-835 2141  
Tickets £1-50, £1-10, 75p, 50p unless otherwise stated. Mailing list 60p a year

Tonight NEW LONDON SINGERS In celebration of Isobel Baillie's  
7.30 p.m. Dr. KENNETH ADAMS 75th Birthday  
In aid of the Musicians' Benevolent Fund Handel's MESSIAH  
£5.00, £2.00, £1.50, £1.00, 75p

Sunday CAMUSICA Chamber music from 17th century  
7.30 p.m. Peter, Dr. James Anderson England and Italy: portrait, bass viol,  
7.30 p.m. Die Lilien Johann Strauss flute, recorder, cello, baroque violin,  
Eine kleine Nachtmusik Mozart harpsichord, virginals and soprano voice.  
Hungarian Polka Johann Strauss

Monday KEIKO TOKUNAGA Chamber music from 17th century  
7.30 p.m. Japanese-British Japan: Suite in D minor, Op. 33  
Musical Association Chopin's Ballade in F minor, Op. 37  
Scherzino: Sonata Fantasy, Op. 19

Tuesday NICHOLAS ROSS Xavier LeRoux's 17th Sonata (1603)  
15 Mar. 7.30 p.m. Ballet-Dances: Sonata Op. 107  
Graham Johnson piano Lullaby: Sonata Op. 107  
Venus Musicale Series New Era Int. Concerts Benjamin: La Tonitru de Ravel  
Poulenc: Sonata (1902)

Wednesday SUZANNE RAMON cello Brahms: Sonata in E minor Op. 24  
17 Mar. 7.30 p.m. Pierre Boulez piano Shostakovich: Sonata in D minor Op. 40  
Concert Agency

Thursday KATHLEEN LIVINGSTONE 1975 NPM Award Winner's Recital  
18 Mar. 7.30 p.m. Simon Nicholls piano Mozart: Arab. Songs by Wolf, Grieg, Reger,  
National Federation of Music Societies Redlin, Anthony Newley; Continuum III  
1st part... Debussy: Ariettes oubliées.

Friday ANTOINE GOULARD (violin) Handel: Sonata in E on 1. No. 13  
19 Mar. 7.30 p.m. GENEVIEVE MARTINY Schubert: Sonata in A on 103 (D. 774)  
New Era Int. Concerts Brahms: Sonata in C minor  
Reed: Sonata No. 1

Saturday MARGARET TYNES soprano Songs by Provenzale, A. Scaratti,  
20 Mar. 7.30 p.m. Graham Johnson piano Bach: Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert,  
Haber, R. Strauss, Hazen  
New Era Int. Concerts

Sunday LIEDER CONCERT HANS HOTTER introduces German bar-  
21 Mar. 7.30 p.m. Park Lane Group itones from his Lieder Club's  
Concert Agency Lieder by Schubert, Brahms, Wolf,  
Schubert, Wagner.

Monday ALICE ARNETT recital Bayreuth: Suite in E minor  
22 Mar. 7.30 p.m. Helen Jennings and Anthony Newley Frank Martin: Quatre Pièces brèves  
Concert Agency Works by Weiss, Messiaen, Ponce, Gaurier.

Friday CAROL SLATER violin Mozart: Sonata in E minor, Op. 13  
26 Mar. 7.30 p.m. SUSAN McFAY piano Prokofiev: Sonata No. 2 in D Op. 61  
Concert Agency Brahms: Sonata in G Op. 78  
Debussy: Sonata

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

TO YOUNG MUSICIANS

For the seventh year running New Era International Concerts Ltd. are prepared  
to subsidise a limited number of concerts at the Wigmore Hall, London, for  
glutted instrumentalists, chamber and singing under the age of 25.  
Please apply in writing with details of career to date and repertoire.  
Auditions will be held in London during April.  
"Young Musicians Series", New Era International Concerts Ltd.,  
16 Lauriston Road, London, SW15 4QJ.











عن الأعمش







A new museum prepares to honour one of Britain's greatest artists

# Turner finds a second home in Denver, Colorado

Denver is a long way from London in both distance and lifestyle, but it is there that a new museum is being built to honour one of Britain's greatest artists, J. M. W. Turner. It is a bit of the unexpected, brought to the Rocky Mountains by a Scottish-born investment banker with one of the world's most extensive private collections of Turner's graphic works.

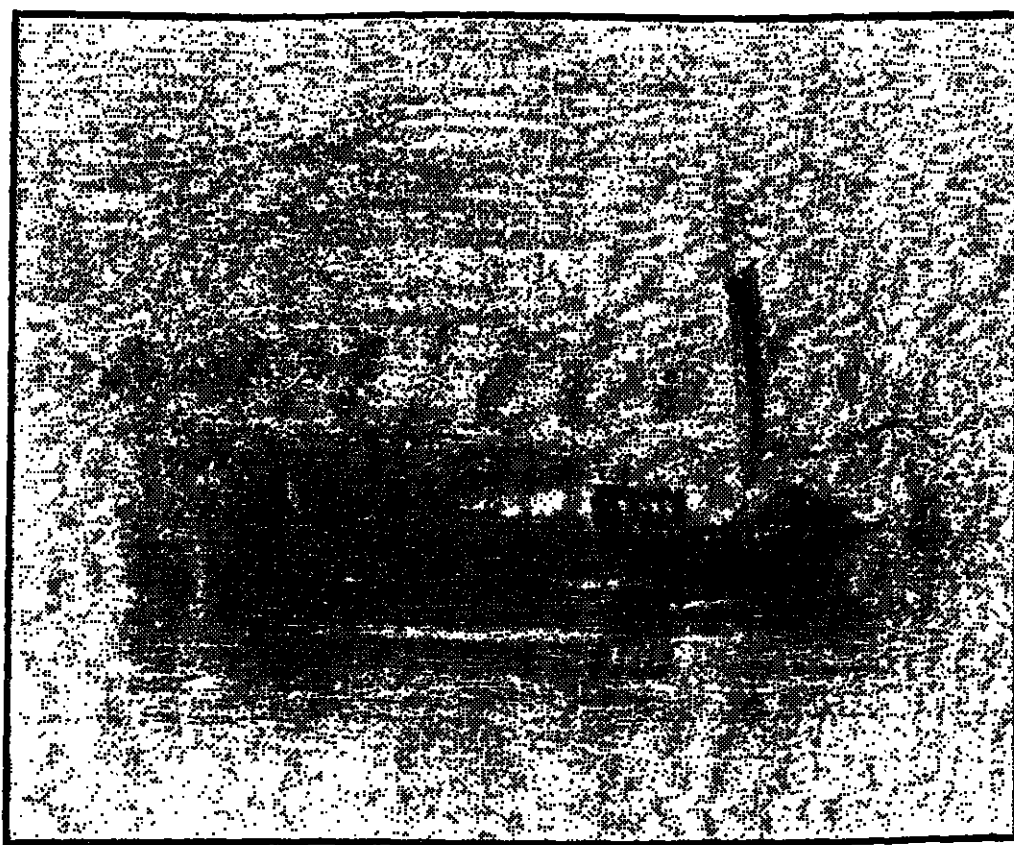
Denver did not even exist in 1851, when Turner died in London and left his unpaid works to the British nation on condition that a gallery be built for them, and it is only now that it has been decided in principle that they will go to Somerset House.

London has always been a centre for Turner followers. Denver, on the other hand, had long been far from the American art mainstream. However, a significant cultural surge gave the city the \$3,250,000 Denver Art Museum in 1971 and launched a \$40m performing arts complex this year.

The six-floor art museum is among the finest in the western United States, but it does not own a Turner. Now Denver is getting an entire museum devoted to Turner. It is scheduled to open by next August 1, the day Colorado will be 100 years old as a state.

Its founder is Mr Douglas J. M. Graham, a 41-year-old former British intelligence officer who emigrated to the United States and Wall Street in 1959, became an American citizen five years ago, then moved to Colorado.

With a family background in art (his father, a British diplo-



Two of the Turner engravings going to Denver, Colorado: Columbus Landing in America, and right, a Self Portrait.

mat, had collected Constable, and a great-uncle was the first director of the National Gallery of London. Mr Graham became interested in collecting Turner in 1956 after seeing an exhibition at the New York Museum of Modern Art. He says he now owns more than 1,000 Turner engravings and prints, representing more than 600 of the estimated 1,000 sub-

jects that make up the artist's graphic work. Mr Graham is turning his collection over to what will be known as the Turner Museum of Colorado. He has acquired an 80-year-old carriage house that is being converted into a museum building, and he has agreed to serve as curator for the first five years without pay. A non-profit making corpora-

tion, with Colorado Governor Mr Richard D. Lamm and the city of Denver, Mr William McNichols, among the trustees, has been set up to sponsor the museum. Two British art authorities have also agreed to serve as trustees. They are Mr Evelyn Joll, managing director of Thomas Agnew and Sons, a leading London art dealer, and

Mr Martin Butler of the Tate Gallery. Other trustees are mainly Colorado businessmen. The museum is planning a special fund drive to raise \$300,000 for a permanent endowment fund and for expansion and renovation of the carriage house. But work has already started on the building, which will be expanded from 2,900 square feet to more than

10,000 square feet, with the addition of a second floor, balconies and an entrance gallery. The second floor will be modelled after Turner's own London gallery, where he exhibited and sold his paintings. Mr Graham has obtained copies of the original Turner gallery plans from the British Museum. In deciding to convert the carriage house into a museum,

rather than give his Turner collection to an existing museum, Mr Graham said he was motivated by the feeling that the "small Turner engravings and etchings required the atmosphere of a private home. The character of the museum will be similar to that of a home—much like the warm, informal atmosphere in the Frick Museum in New York."

Once the museum is established, Mr Graham hopes it will become "a focal point" for American collectors of Turner and will acquire oils and watercolours to supplement the graphics. He expects it to attract loan exhibitions of Turner works from other American museums and British galleries. He also hopes New York and London dealers will keep it informed of Turner engravings offered for sale on the art market.

The museum will also feature the art of Thomas Moran, whom Mr Graham describes as Turner's greatest American student. The English-born Moran painted a wide variety of subjects but was best known for his panoramic canvases of the American West. His paintings of such natural wonders as the Grand Canyon in Arizona were said to have inspired the United States Congress to establish the National Parks system.

Mr Graham is planning to use some of the museum funds to help art students and to set up an annual Turner medal or award. "Turner would be proud to help struggling artists, but prolonged litigation prevented this," Mr Graham said. "If we can help young artists, we will carry on the tradition of Turner."

Eugene Levin

## Cuba: enjoying the good life communist-style

Any impression of Cuba must be clouded by the judgment that the people are almost unreasonably friendly and open. They display many of the good Latin qualities without the nasty Latin traits. They laugh more than the citizens of any other communist country I have visited and they certainly seem less oppressed by the regime that has ruled them since 1953 than say, the Poles are by their government.

There are, of course, especially in Havana, the trappings of communism—endless form filling, propaganda posters on every hoarding and a member of the Ministry of Information talking one everywhere one went. But there is none of the furtiveness found in many of the European communist states.

Where, in other Latin countries, I would not leave a cigarette unattended in an ashtray, in Cuba it is quite safe to deposit valuables by the swimming pool while making a telephone call. There simply is no thieving. In 1975, there were only four arrests in Havana and during my stay I did not see a policeman on the streets and encountered on the highways only two motorcycle patrolmen.

The populace is apparently very keen on law and order. Two weeks ago, following an incident in a bar, I saw a group of people make a citizen's arrest as they carried me to a police station. The people are apparently less keen on politics—in fact they seem curiously apolitical. Taxi drivers do not try to convert one to communism and not many of the men and women in the street to whom I spoke could explain exactly what the recent referendum on the constitution was all about.

"Official spokesmen", naturally, and those in high places (almost everywhere) I met who held a significant job had been closely involved with Castro in the revolution) shot the party line. No matter what the question, the answer invariably started: "After the overthrow of the tyranny and following our victorious revolution, we did this or that..."

The captains of industry make a great thing of not being able to speak English. This is curious, because most of them were lieutenants of industry under the Americans before the overthrow of the Batista regime and presumably spoke perfectly good English. Then, it is surprising how much can be forgotten in 16 years.

Yet the men who run the country are extremely articulate and well read. During a visit to the tobacco plantations, the production director of the

particular area quoted Shakespeare to me (in Spanish) and made it clear that he had read all of Dickens (in translation). He looked at me and said (I believe with all seriousness): "But why should your people want to know about that? We did not demand to know about your country when your industrial revolution was taking place."

This same man spoke with feeling about the plight of Cuba's "sister peoples" in Angola and Namibia. He accepted the party line that Cuba would support the Namibians in their fight for independence from South African rule. Every official to whom I talked did so. Those in government positions in Havana were at pains to emphasize that this did not mean that the Castro administration was pursuing a policy of colonial aggrandisement in Africa. I was repeatedly told, not a matter of politics but a continuation of the policy of support that had been followed for over a decade.

On the few occasions when it was possible to talk to "Cubans" in the street without an official present, I discovered that they also supported Cuba's African policy without demur. Some students of philosophy from the university (which was right across the road from the hotel where I was staying) came each day to use the hotel swimming pool. They did not look over their shoulders to see if they were being watched and appeared too intelligent and questioning to have been indoctrinated.

Most of all, they hated American imperialism. After that, they were totally opposed to imperialism, wherever it was to be found. Asked about Chinese imperialism, they agreed that it was as bad as any other. If, and it was a big if, the Russians were found to be becoming an imperial power, then that would be damnable, too.

Workers in the tobacco factories and the sugar fields have been obviously indoctrinated by the Cuban media, on the other hand. The state-owned newspapers and radio stations do not even pretend to be unbiased. No foreign papers are available and the worker on his way to office or factory is his office obliged to accept the revolutionary government's view of the world. Therefore, military involvement in Africa is not questioned. Nor is the paranoic hatred of America.

If the temporal needs of the average Cuban are so well catered for, it is inevitable that the observer's eye should be cast towards the spiritual. Having grown up as a Spanish colony, the influence of the Roman Church has always been great. The number of

churches in Havana and their architectural beauty is remarkable. Yet, on a Sunday, the temples of Christianity remain ominously empty.

Even the magnificent Cathedral of Havana, still the seat of a Catholic Archbishop, was peopled for Mass by a handful of very old worshippers. Not once did I see a young person go into a church and in my visits to various parts of the country I saw only one priest out on the streets. And yet, in the seminary which is attached to the Cathedral in Havana, there are 80 student priests, most of whom, when ordained, will carry out their ministry in Cuba.

For whom, I wondered, will these four score men be able to minister. The Cuban Government, very shrewdly, has not banned religion. It has simply advocated freedom of choice, especially free love. For the young, whether they are articulate, thinking young or not, the advantages of such a life must indeed seem great. The young are well catered for, in fact, the multiplicity of night clubs in every major town, the food and the entertainment are of a price that the young worker and his girl (even students) can afford.

Petrol is relatively cheap but cars expensive. Many students on the campus, however, run old MGs (the status car for the young) and there are a number of British models to be seen on the roads. New cars come mainly from the Soviet Union (mostly the Russian Fiat) or from South America (Argentinian Fords—another incongruity which would delight Detroit).

In the main, cars are very old—staggeringly decrepit Cadillacs and Chevrolets, repainted by hand in the most garish colours, frequently with humpers and brightwork hanging off and all driven in true Latin style. Only seven per cent of cars licensed to be on Cuban roads have been imported since 1959.

Cars aside, the standard of living has risen dramatically since the revolution. There are no beggars on the streets, no slums that I saw, and neither plague nor famine. Consumer durables are available through the state at a price, and for the rest the people go comparatively well clothed and fed.

The hard days of post-1959 rationing are over. The economy, apparently, is sound. The sugar, mineral and tobacco industries are booming. Above all, the people insist that they are free and that big brother does not watch them. I can believe it—he was far too busy watching me.

John Groser

## It's almost plain sailing for a champion of champions

### Sportview

quite a different way and which demanded much finer tuning."

Reverting to his Albacore and Enterprise the following season, he dominated both national championships and became the "champion of champions" by winning the Endeavour trophy in both 1974 and 1975. This event is restricted to one top helmsman from each main dinghy class, and on the latter occasion he set a record by finishing first in every race.

His preoccupation, however, was with mounting a British challenge in the Olympic 470 class. Following a second place in an international regatta at Hyères, in the south of France, in April, he won the British championship at Weymouth. But

a subsequent visit to north America proved disappointing. In the world championships at Association Island, the United States national sailing centre on Lake Ontario, he finished only eleventh. Moving north to the Canadian side of the lake, he met with a minor disaster by forgetting his spinnaker pole in a vital race and being disqualified for hoisting the spinnaker without it.

With Clark, who sailed for London University while Crebbin was at Cambridge, he spends every other week-end at Hampshire county council's sports centre at Calshot, where Olympic hopefuls are put through a training programme devised by John Maynard, the RYA official coach. The regime is

tough—short races and tactical practice out on the winter water, interspersed with indoor trackwork, weightlifting, badminton, squash and five-a-side football.

Only a few years ago such a programme would have been regarded incredulously by yachtsmen, and undoubtedly many of the older generation would consider it a waste of time and money. But it is a measure of how serious the association now takes the Olympics and how anxious it is to see sailing retained as an Olympic sport.

Little more than a decade ago Keith Musto and Tony Morgan, who won a silver medal at the Tokyo Olympics, were considered slightly eccentric because their training included a little gentle jogging in track-suits and an occasional work-out in a gymnasium. Crebbin exercises daily on a rowing machine, runs several miles a week, plays squash most evenings and is probably as mentally and physically fit as any leading athlete in his sport.

His firm, he concedes, have been generous about allowing him time off, but he is wary of sponsorship and semi-professionalism. "I can't give as much time to sailing as some people do," he says. "But I prefer it that way. I like my job and there are more important things in life than sport."

Money is a perennial problem. Expenses are shared with his crew, "but everything I earn seems to disappear straightaway. My one great advantage is that I have always chosen British equipment, even when there appeared to be better stuff on the market, so that manufacturers have often let me try out their latest sails and fittings." He is particularly bitter about the 25 per cent "luxury" VAT on racing boats, whereas golf clubs, for instance, escape with only 8 per cent.

He concedes that yachting attracts its fair share of Sports Council grants, but read with very alarm a report that the Golf Caper, a report that had complained of having to spend £25 of his own money on a recent trip abroad. "We sent 24 competitors to the last two Olympics and between them they won nine medals," he points out. "No other sport can match that record, and it's time we got more attention."

John Young



Phil Crebbin with crewman Derek Clark: a clear favourite for a gold medal.

Our Saturday columnist, George Hutchinson, has flu.

## France's auction centre goes up in the world... to a disused railway station

Last month the whole Parisian auction system was uprooted and transformed. The seedy old Hotel Drouot where the city's 70 or so auctioneers used to hold their daily auctions was finally closed. Nestling in the fashionable *arrondissement*, upwind of the Opera Comique, it was the bourn of a devoted army of amateurs and dealers who, grouping and regrouping, as they gossiped, admired, bought or shot down the reputations of artists, objects or each other.

The old hotel is closed and the auction world has been removed, lock, stock and barrel, to a disused nineteenth-century railway station. But do not think that Drouot has gone down in the world. It has un-

questionably gone up. Drouot Rive Gauche, as the new auction centre is known, occupies the western wing of the old Gare d'Orsay, a monumental structure of the best period of railway architecture. It is thus placed in the chic *seventh arrondissement*, a stone's throw from Parliament.

The new auction centre resembles a space age bubble cunningly inserted in the grand old carcass of the station. It is all very smart, with curving white walls and bright primary colour schemes. The 20 sale rooms are divided by four passages, two reserved for goods and two for visitors; gone are the days when a potential bidder intent on a Rembrandt was forced to find his way through teetering

trolly loads of old washing machines.

The goods for sale arrive near the old ticket office, while the public is admitted from the river side of the building. For the Seine flows heedlessly past this revolutionary new auction complex, seriously distracting the attention of the administrative officers, whose rooms command a view of river barges and the Tuilleries gardens.

### Reassuring

The complex contains two banks and offices of transportation, insurance, and valuation, while a bar is a new addition to the range of services on offer to clients. To an Anglo-Saxon the sparse usage

of this facility comes as a surprise; in a country without licensing laws attitudes to drinking are, of course, less frantic.

Everything looks different until you enter the sale rooms themselves; it is reassuring to find the same old mixtures of rolled-up mattresses, second-hand typewriters, Sevres porcelain, Art Nouveau vases, minor Impressionists, Louis XV commodes and Old Masters. The French auction system is designed for collectors and dealers who know their onions; you are expected to find the items of distinction for yourself. A substantial proportion of the sales are not even catalogued; there is a simple convention in the order of sale, running from drawings

and paintings, through objects, to furniture.

The new location has nevertheless had a profound effect on the character of sales. The space age rooms in a fashionable quarter of Paris have attracted a new chic clientele. They are turning up and paying ridiculous prices for things the old hands say they have not bothered to bone up on how the market is going for anything.

It is interesting to reflect on the impact of *le chic* on other auction rooms. Parke Bernet in New York lives by it; the majority of its purchasers are private people. It means that prices vary unpredictably between absurdly high and absurdly low; for New York does not have a sufficient

back-up of knowledgeable dealers to ensure that items going cheaply will be mopped up by someone.

London does have this back-up, and also sees a lot of Continental dealers; Sothebys and Christie's, moreover, have *le chic*; their sales are frequently discussed in the *Evening Standard* and *Bonhams*—so far—have not, and their prices, I reckon, suffer as a result.

### Hostelries

However this may turn out for Drouot Rive Gauche, the removal has also discouraged some of the old regulars. They used to have their particular hours for visiting the sale rooms, knowing whom they would meet and moving on to

a favourite local café or restaurant. Some are not prepared to renew this habit or seek out a new range of *hostelries* handy for the new location.

Auctioneers, experts and a few other hardy souls have launched themselves into a revision of habits. A vast restaurant in the tower of the *Théâtre d'Orsay*, next door to the rooms, has become the most popular lunchtime rendezvous. Regulars who never patronised different *hostelries* and a new social pattern is emerging. Those attached to Drouot in an official capacity get a cut-price lunch, which usually excludes the more captivating choices on the menu.

## Travels with 'que Hester

Hester Stanhope, 15 years ago yesterday, eldest daughter of the Earl of Stanhope and sister of William Pitt, birthplace was the family seat, Chevening, Sevenoaks, Kent, now to be of the Prince of Wales.

Her mother gave her more daughters, but at age of 25, Charles, almost driven mad, and somewhat unkind, his three daughters mother's death.

He later married Louisa, daughter of the second Earl of Stanhope, but he also became, with the spirit of Revolution, called a xen Stanhope, and of arms taken down from Chevening. With her father more concerned with his inventions still be seen at the Museum is London's living the social life Hester took charge of her three daughters. She became almost father's Jacobin, decided that she and her brothers and the tyranny of Denmark was Chevening was she succeeded in the earl's annoyance.

Hester then lived grandmother, the great Earl of Chatham, William Pitt, who she adopted her, changed, Pitt, unmarried, office and living Castle Deal, but country was in 1804 aviation scene

mandated a militia and so did Hester. When Pitt became Minister again, Hester took to look after was probably the social achievement the most important the country, with tongue that enemies, partial women. (She or that she would with cart-horses.)

When Pitt died would disintegrate voted her a pass a year, but this for a person hope to be to higher rate. He unofficially engaged Sir John Moore, met at Walmer, a de camp was half-brother, returned from Sp Moore and Chatham in 1807 within an hour at Corunna in 1808. She was now fortune, which her youngest James, decided to of the Medici recover.

They travelled the grand Chatham and Pitt, she would e so that he would greatest statesman had ever seen, that she would him, or return to him.

She was true for a few years about the Me great style, w doctor, Mervyn retinue of servants, but paid it soon became ever, that Mid fulfil Hester's when the play Middle East, was then called Michael had to Hester settle Mount Lebanon regarded as a local pashas, as and even the it She became it own literary in Eastern club goal of every Kingslake to La But her dems and she was on the new art young Queen Palmerston in order to it she wrote a "q Victoria, was Palmerston's ref pension. Sir pletely alone, door of her cas up, and lived life like a han

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He concedes that yachting attracts its fair share of Sports Council grants, but read with very alarm a report that the Golf Caper, a report that had complained of having to spend £25 of his own money on a recent trip abroad. "We sent 24 competitors to the last two Olympics and between them they won nine medals," he points out. "No other sport can match that record, and it's time we got more attention."

John Young

Our Saturday columnist, George Hutchinson, has flu.

The author's t *Araby* of Lady is published Cremoesti.

Geraint Sale Room





## 24-HOUR REVOLT

In a birthday broadcast on Thursday evening the Prime Minister spoke in his most pious tone of a Labour party "on the whole much more united than at any time I can remember". At that very hour down on the Exchequer was buffeting his chastising colleagues with charges of blackmail and conspiracy. Mr Heffer was bellowing "Stalinist" at him, and Mr Russell Kerr, for words, was addressing the Dispatch Box with his fingers. United We Brawl.

The votes in the Commons on Wednesday and Thursday dramatized two already observable facts about the Parliamentary Labour Party. An important section of it is systematically opposed to the Government's current economic policy. Yet the same members wish to sustain the Government in office. That is the position before the drama in the division lobbies, and it is the position now. We know, however, that Labour MPs are more judicious than before in seeking writing from the Cabinet concessions to their point of view, and that the Cabinet is ready to untort their tactics by a flat refusal to compromise. The speeches of Mr Wilson and Mr Heffer on the confidence motion showed nothing. Indeed they were pitched so as to humiliate the erring members as they were more whipped into line.

The bad blood created by this incident will not be purged quickly. In the months ahead it will be presented with inflammatory opportunities to

obstruct particulars of the policies they dislike—the vote in which they abstained threatened no such practical peril, being on a motion of oblique approval of a White Paper about future spending intentions. If the Government shows any signs of weakening they may be emboldened to exploit those opportunities. But the Government need not weaken so long as two conditions are fulfilled. One is that the alliance holds between ministers and trade union heavyweights, as it held fast during this week's disturbances. The other condition is that the electoral consequences of the Government's policies at issue within the Parliamentary Labour Party do not become demonstrably disastrous, does not reach the point at which the Government's effective majority in the Commons is reversed or the morale of Labour MPs undermined.

The Coventry, Carshalton and Wirral by-elections were good for the Conservatives and bad for Labour, but not so bad as to portend a period of electoral humiliation. At about this period in the 1966-70 Parliament by-elections were showing swings against the Labour Government of between 16 and 21 per cent. At Coventry and Carshalton the swing was less than half as great. At the Wirral the Conservatives appeared to triumph over Labour in a more spectacular way, but the fact that this was the retired Speaker's seat at the general election disables any straight comparison.

Labour also had the satisfaction of doing better in the lovable seat than in the Conser-

vative seats which it could not win. For a government it is lovable seats which count at by-elections. These observations are not offered in order to disparage the Conservative's satisfaction at their performance, spiced for them by Mrs Thatcher's most effective broadside against the Prime Minister in the confidence debate on Thursday and by the spectacle of the Liberal Party back in the land of lost deposits. They merely suggest that the Government has not yet entered a period of electoral collapse.

It may be observed that the Liberals did best where Mr Thorpe was personally most in evidence (Carshalton). But little is to be ascertained concerning the future of their leader from the entrails of the Liberal Party. It is a safe guess that the Liberal's melancholy retreat has less to do with the quality of leadership provided by Mr Thorpe or with the hysteria which has recently infected Liberal MPs of almost all sizes than with certain changes in the general political situation. Labour and Conservative between them have engineered a return to ideological parity. Labour is perceived as the party of state power, collectivist high taxes, welfare, the ally of the organized working class. The Conservative Party looms through the mist of vapourized policies as the vehicle for the political values of retrenchment, individualism, anti-bureaucratic, self-reliance and sound money. There is plenty for Liberals to do in the space between those stereotypes, but no tide flows there to carry them along.

## European settlers in Rhodesia

From Lord Greenhill of Harrow

Sir, At the end of his bitter letter published today (March 11) Mr Henderson of Salisbury asks me a question—"when is a settler not a settler?" I can best answer him by stating my purely personal views, as follows.

1. In the event of a mutually satisfactory agreement between Mr Smith and Mr Nkomo many Europeans now in Rhodesia should remain. They are needed to develop the country in the interests of both races. Indeed one of the purposes of an agreement would be to permit this.

2. Consideration should be given to assisting Europeans wishing to leave.

3. No further European settlement should be encouraged. Europeans working as expatriates would be welcomed.

May I, in my turn, ask Mr Henderson a question? Would he advise any young European to leave his country of origin to settle with his family in Rhodesia hoping to make his life and theirs for all time in that predominantly black country?

Yours,  
DENIS GREENHILL,  
25 Hamilton House,  
Vicarage Gate, W8.

## Penalties for causing road deaths

From Mr Geoffrey Parkinson

Sir, The appalling tragedy of the recent M1 crash in which five people died is made semi-farical by the irrelevant penalties imposed upon the driver as householder.

Law enforcement in the field of road traffic criminality is confronted by the dilemma that a high percentage of offenders lack any obvious guilty intent. Had the driver in the M1 crash been a family of five he would have become the monster of the decade, but the causes of this little massacre were weariness and cultural confusion. £250 and a short disqualification is the price fixed for such weaknesses.

With over seven million human beings on the roads each year it is clear that industrial societies have developed a scourge of epidemic proportions that dwarfs ancient plagues and modern wars. Somehow the internal combustion engine has managed to elude care, families and friends whose views and backgrounds may not coincide with their own.

Ordinary, reasonable human beings often acquire psychopathic attitudes when driving. The drunken driver, for example, only sees one problem: how to avoid detection.

Law enforcement will not have much relevance in the field of road traffic criminality until our society moulds a relevant morality about road behaviour.

Yours,  
GEOFFREY PARKINSON,  
117 St James Road, Sutton, Surrey.

## Voluntary redundancy

From Mr A. G. F. Hall-Davis, Conservative MP for Morecambe and Lunesdale

Sir, A United Kingdom unemployment rate of 6.3 per cent is forecast for next winter by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development. Has not the time arrived to introduce a national voluntary redundancy programme?

Were the Government to offer, in a programme staged over the next six months, a weekly payment equivalent to the National Insurance pension to men born between April 1, 1914 and March 31, 1913 who wished to retire and whose employers were prepared to give an undertaking to fill at once the vacancy created, several hundred thousand younger men who will otherwise be unemployed, would be next winter find a job.

I believe with general goodwill the problems associated with the earlier payment of occupational pensions could, for a programme of limited duration, be overcome in many cases.

There would be no net cost to public funds, no imperilling of economic recovery.

Yours faithfully,  
ALFRED HALL-DAVIS,  
House of Commons.

## Chauvinism

From Mr Ian Lloyd

Sir, You are to be congratulated for often publishing attacks on the chauvinism of the right. Your efforts do not appear sufficient when, yesterday, just above an article on the misuse of "interface", you allowed a shocking misuse of the word "chauvinism" in Peter Hazell's article on India (March 5).

Chauvinism is a French politician who believes not without some reason at the time, that French culture, institutions, indeed anything French was superior to whatever other nations might have in the same line. Hence chauvinism means the belief that one's own nation is superior to all others.

This doctrine should be contrasted with nationalism which is the belief that one's own nation's culture, institutions, etc. should be kept separate and independent of those of others even if they are not superior. Chauvinism is for a sense the negation of nationalism (everybody else's nationalism).

Peter Hazell's article in his article uses the two words as if they were synonyms. But the Tamils who support DMK are not chauvinists. As far as they are concerned Hindi culture is all very well in its place, which is a thousand miles north of Madras. As far as I know, this attitude is shared by the other regional autonomists of India. It is the Hindi-speaking Brahmins of Delhi who are the chauvinists, who believe no other language or culture should exist in India but their own.

Yours sincerely,  
IAN LLOYD,  
14 Ty Dray Place,  
Penylan, Cardiff.

## Direct grant schools: loss of opportunities

From the Headmaster of the Hulme Grammar School, Oldham

Sir, Like most of the other 117 heads of Direct Grant schools which have chosen to become independent I have been interviewing large numbers of candidates for admission next September, and I have been particularly struck by three things.

In the first place, though the number of applicants is slightly down on previous years it is still large and of a high quality. Secondly, the "missing" candidates this year are on the whole the clever children from ordinary low-income homes who under previous Direct Grant Regulations would have been able to obtain a free or very handsomely assisted education—that is, they would have been excluded through lack of means. Most striking, however, is the experience of talking to the parents of the applicants; I had not realized the intensity of the feeling against the present system.

I have great respect for my comprehensive colleagues and their schools, often operating in impossible difficult circumstances, but the fact remains that in some areas at

least large numbers of sensible, ordinary people want a structured, disciplined, academic education for their able children, feel that they cannot get it in the malnourished schools and are prepared to make desperate efforts to pay the fees: and, alas, many will not be able to afford it.

The Direct Grant system ensured the opportunity for able children from a wide social range to enjoy a high-grade education at very small cost to the state. The action of the Government has meant a narrowing of our social range, accentuation of social division, denial of opportunity to those who have benefited most in the past, and much increased cost to the community of educating able children less efficiently. What a nonsense it all is, and what an irony that under a Labour Government the possession of a good voice, musical talent or a rich father entitles one to an education appropriate to one's ability and spirit, but the possession of a good brain does not.

Yours faithfully,  
S. W. JOHNSON, Headmaster,  
The Hulme Grammar School,  
Oldham.

## Judges' experience

From Mr R. S. Ryder

Sir, Since I have not, as High Sheriff of Suffolk (and incidentally I am a magistrate), had to draw my sword in defence of High Court judges, I trust that I may be allowed to use my pen. The Solicitor General (you reported) on February 27 at a meeting of the Merthyr Tydfil Trades and Labour Council proposed that "judges and senior lawyers ought to have meetings with people as housewives, trade union officials, lay magistrates and young radicals".

This proposal, perhaps, arose directly or indirectly, because of certain decisions of the Court of Appeal.

Be that as it may I would like, in a non-political way, to counter the tenor of what the Solicitor General is reported to have said. First, during their youth and early middle age, it is clear that judges have been deeply involved, as advocates, in many cases where the not so well off, or less privileged people are concerned. That experience remains one of the fundamental advantages of the English judicial system. Secondly, judges, like ordinary mortals, have families and friends whose views and backgrounds may not coincide with their own.

I am sure that we are all in favour of them mixing with all and sundry. But they only spend a tiny proportion of their waking hours sitting in court. For all I know some may frequent public houses, go shopping, watch trade union officials on television, or have families and friends who are "young radicals".

Thirdly, country court judges are constantly meeting lay magistrates. High Court judges admittedly may not do so but they are senior brethren in the brotherhood of the

law and, in my very short experience of sitting with them, I have not found them to be unwise or intolerant. It is a lovely idea of Mr Peter Archer's that meetings with housewives and others should take place. One wonders who is going to appoint the representatives of the several categories of people referred to. Mr Archer has flown a kite and, with great respect, it will not stay in the sky.

Fourthly, I was interested by the Solicitor General's statement that, despite legal aid, most of the population were likely "if they became involved in litigation, to have to meet their own costs". I have been told that the reason for the great increase in the number of property defended cases in the magistrates' and crown courts was because of legal aid, and it would certainly be illuminating if we could be told what kind of proportion of the money spent on the defence in these and higher courts is provided by private individuals and organizations and what proportion by the taxpayers through legal aid (this question is not posed in aspersions of the system of legal aid).

Finally, rather than, by implication, criticizing the conduct of our judges, we should be thankful that we have such an excellent system and such good judges. Like a great deal else in this country, including the parliamentary system which many of us take for granted (and which Mr Solihull says does not, we should be on the lookout for those who would subvert and undermine confidence, and sap the strength and weaken the resolve of those whose duty it is to uphold them. Let us be Mr Stand Pasts, Mr Archer, as I trust you are.

Yours faithfully,  
R. S. RYDER,  
High Sheriff of Suffolk,  
Gr Bradley Hall,  
Newmarket, Suffolk.

## Journalists' closed shop

From Mr Jack Brown

Sir, Why all the fuss? As a past secretary and chairman of Barnsley Trades Council I have experience of dozens of requests from affiliated organizations that have been handled in exactly the same way as the one from the National Union of Journalists. Some even when the present editor of the *Barnsley Chronicle* was NUJ delegate.

To talk of freedom of the press in context of the track record of the family owned and anti-Labour editorial attitude would be most effective. But I know that many of my Brighton colleagues agree with my view that the principle of full and free access to the Press comes before such legitimate trade union aspirations.

The NUJ both locally and nationally must seek the path of the popular and loyal support of the great majority of journalists, not by restricting one of the country's basic freedoms. I would urge all NUJ members who support this view to do all they can to promote it, and oppose the type of action initiated in Barnsley and later condoned by the NUJ's national executive committee.

Yours sincerely,  
RON PIDGEON, Chief Reporter,  
Brighton and Hove Gazette,  
24 Rocks Park Road,  
Uckfield,  
Sussex,  
March 9.

## Liberals and coalition

From Mr John Hanvey

Sir, At the (acceptable) risk of being termed "soggy" by Lord Beaumont (letter March 8), can I comment on David Steel's article (March 8) and the coalition issue?

For years survey research has shown that the Liberal Party's greatest asset has been that it is perceived (rightly or wrongly) as moderate, reasonable and middle of the road. It has also attracted support because it is thought to be less obviously party political than the two major parties and because it is not seen to be a creature of the Left or the Right. A Liberal call for coalition government is therefore more likely to be credible than the

several sub-editors have left the NUJ to join the Institute of Journalists. I can sympathize with my colleagues in Barnsley in their attitude towards "the Barnsley Four". However, I find myself in agreement with Mr Michael Foot in questioning the Barnsley NUJ branch's action which, in effect, threatens the free flow of news and opinion between news sources and bona fide journalists (who do not happen to be NUJ members).

Obviously all NUJ members, including myself, would like a "closed shop" situation in which industrial action would be most effective. But I know that many of my Brighton colleagues agree with my view that the principle of full and free access to the Press comes before such legitimate trade union aspirations.

The NUJ both locally and nationally must seek the path of the popular and loyal support of the great majority of journalists, not by restricting one of the country's basic freedoms. I would urge all NUJ members who support this view to do all they can to promote it, and oppose the type of action initiated in Barnsley and later condoned by the NUJ's national executive committee.

Yours sincerely,  
RON PIDGEON, Chief Reporter,  
Brighton and Hove Gazette,  
24 Rocks Park Road,  
Uckfield,  
Sussex,  
March 9.

same policy advocated by either the Labour or Conservative parties.

At the time of the last general election, the great majority of both Liberal voters and potential Liberal voters who did actually vote Liberal were in favour of coalition. Indeed the "coalition vote" formed a substantial part of the pro-EEC vote in last June's referendum.

Our survey data points strongly to the belief that the Liberal Party's rejection of coalition before and during the October election was the most important single reason for the slump in the Liberal vote.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN HANVEY,  
Louisa Harris International Inc.,  
251-259 Regent Street, W1.

theatre, for instance, fulfilling the National and the RSC, fulfils its commitment to its own city on anything like the scale of a dozen regional theatres.

Indeed many theatre people of some experience and standing choose to do the necessary shroud to work in cities such as this simply because the vitality of the response and the personal involvement of large numbers of the community are so exhilarating and rewarding. In fact I suspect that in many ways the provincial ghost is a livelier animal than its metropolitan cousin.

Yours,  
ROBIN MIDGLEY,  
Haymarket Theatre,  
Belgrave Gate,  
Leicester,  
March 9.

## Treating mentally abnormal offenders

From Dr Melitta Schimberg

Sir, I have only just returned to England and have had Bernard Leavis's offer on prison (March 3) brought to my notice. I worked for many years with the Institute for the Scientific Treatment of Delinquency in London and was a founder member and for 10 years a Clinical Director of the Association for the Treatment of Offenders (APTO) in New York, so I have long experience in this field.

Unfortunately most forensic psychiatrists are concerned more with diagnosis than treatment, as most criminologists discuss the etiology of crime rather than the cure of criminals. The statement that an offender needs treatment is frequently meaningless, because no treatment is available, and until we can build up a body of forensic psychiatrists experienced in dealing with criminals, prison may be no more harmful than a mental hospital.

Broadmoor, though run humanely, must of necessity be as restrictive as a prison; an aggressive, sadistic offender may cause great harm to other patients in a normal mental hospital. Mr Stephen Hodgson will at least be prevented from drinking alcohol and being put in touch with Alcoholics Anonymous; for the time being, he can harm no more children.

The Rev Stephen Care is an extreme example of a not uncommon type of offender. His sense of reality has become completely distorted; whereas in his case psychotherapy would certainly be more effective than prison, with the less abnormal offender one of the most effective tools of psychotherapy is the reality that the offender is in a reality and conforming to the rules of our imperfect society will gain him a happier future than the inevitable incarceration which will follow his present anti-social behaviour.

For this reason, prison must remain the ultimate deterrent as well as the necessary protection of society.

But we in APTO have long preached that the most hopeful method of treating the offender is in the community where he is supported and helped by psychotherapy, social worker, probation officer and concerned members of his family and the public to learn to cope with the strains and problems of normal life. We found this method working well with a small number of abnormal patients referred to us from the courts. This method has worked well in the Massachusetts court clinics which over the last 20 years have been successful in rehabilitating many offenders. A similar set-up exists in Glasgow in the Douglas Inch Centre under Dr Keith Wardrope.

The cost of crime to the community is staggering, not only in terms of the suffering of victims and the fear it engenders in the law-abiding citizen, but also in the actual financial cost of running the prison system. Treating the offender in the community, wherever possible, is cheaper and the chance of rehabilitation higher, but staff, training and facilities are essential. The failure of the Prisoners' and Young Persons Act are far more due to the lack of trained staff and suitable institutions than to any inherent weakness in it.

The ordinary social worker and psychiatrist has no training or experience for dealing with the mentally abnormal offender. The cost of building centres such as the Glasgow one and the Massachusetts clinics and of setting up intensive training facilities for staff would, in the long run, be a financial saving to the community, as well as giving real hope to the mentally abnormal offender. "Do good good, lasting benefit to the whole community, but only if it is based on firm common sense and is backed by solid action, not by pious hopes.

Yours faithfully,  
MELITTA SCHIMBERG,  
International President of the Association for the Treatment of Offenders; Editor of the *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology*,  
199 Gloucester Place, NW1,  
March 8.

## Ulster border security

From Dr Martin Pulkbrook

Sir, I am an Englishman at present living and working in the Republic of Ireland. In recent months I have made several visits to Britain and have been impressed by the security arrangements in Wales, England and the Isle of Man for checking incoming passengers and their luggage on arrival from the Republic.

Yesterday (March 10) I drove my Republic of Ireland car, with a full car-load of personal luggage, from Dublin to Larne Harbour in Northern Ireland, and must admit to my complete amazement that there were no customs officers on duty at the border, and no police or army check of any kind. The solitary army patrol I saw through without stopping to search my obviously laden car.

I feel deeply ashamed of successive British governments for their blatant discrimination in favour of mainland Britain and against Northern Ireland. In Britain relatively small-scale terrorism (which compared with that in Northern Ireland, where the situation is so much worse, security is correspondingly less intense).

This is an unjustifiable state of affairs and Northern Ireland is paying the continuing price in loss of lives for our callous disregard of its adequate protection. "8-6" government policy over Northern Ireland has proved disastrous: what firm yet humane security arrangements in Northern Ireland more appropriate to the scale of the terrorism there (and this must start from a much-intensified policing of the IRA's violence) would be bound to follow within months, if not weeks.

Yours faithfully,  
MARTIN PULBROOK,  
North West Castle Hotel,  
Stranraer,  
Wigtown-shire,  
March 10.

## GERMANY'S POLISH TREATIES

Germany always hiccups when confronted with a decision out its eastern policies. Yesterday's Bundesrat vote on the Polish agreements was no exception. An extraordinary jumble of issues and emotions accumulated around it, the seeds of which will continue to weave in and out of the campaign for the federal elections in October.

The debates on the Polish rearmament itself showed just how difficult it still is to close counts on the Nazi period. German guilt for what the Nazis did to the Slav nations mingles with regrets for lost territories and political disagreements on demer attitudes to Eastern Europe. The late-night agreement which Herr Schmidt and Giersek, the Polish leader, entered into in Helsinki last year was supposed to lay at least a historical problem to rest.

Germany agreed to indemnify Poland for pensions paid to those who were forced to work in the Nazis. It also offered credits worth about £200m, lying an attempt to compensate for the vast material and human damage inflicted on Poland. In return the Poles agreed to let out about 125,000 German soldiers.

It was easy enough to pick up in the agreement, as the German Opposition did, that about the thousands more German who are said to be leaving Poland? And did all the government leaders

who attended the Helsinki conference pledge themselves anyway, and without financial incentives, to promoting freer movement? Had not Poland received enough compensation for getting Germany's former eastern territories?

Christian Democrats, some of whose speeches left a nasty taste, were doubtless encouraged by public opinion polls showing that a majority of the public were against the agreement. Younger Germans feel no guilt, and many resent new immigrants in a time of unemployment as well as new payments from a depleted exchequer. More encouragingly, the old belief in the right of German people to be united appears to be waning.

Supporters of the agreement could point out its moral element, the legal strength of a claim for pensions for which German employers had paid contributions, and also the danger that claims from individuals would amount to a far greater sum. Those who knew and understood Poland also recognized the difficulty which its Government could encounter in opening the door to an indefinite number of emigrants (an ethnic German is not always easily definable) and the loss of skilled labour that this could entail.

There would, however, have been no crisis if the Government majority in the upper house (where the *Land* governments are represented) had not been suddenly put in jeopardy by two

secret dissidents voting a Christian Democrat into power in Lower Saxony. This forced the Christian Democratic Party to face the possibility that it could destroy the Polish agreement if it voted against it, thereby not only stopping the exit visas of the 125,000 but also precipitating a wider crisis. Some of them had already broken ranks and supported the treaty agreement in the lower house but the votes of the *Land* governments were not have been affected by this, except that one of the principal defections, Herr Leisler-Kiep, subsequently joined the government of Lower Saxony.

A last-minute concession by the Polish Government gave them a bridge which saved the day. But it has not saved the Christian Democrats from their dilemma. If they follow Herr Strauss in continuing to oppose the eastern policy and seeking an absolute majority by an all-out attack on the government coalition they will destroy their chances of wooing the Free Democrats into a coalition after the election. For the Free Democrats, who will have to make some sort of statement on the issue at their May congress, feel comfortable only with the more liberal wing exemplified by men such as Herr Leisler-Kiep. Now that the Christian Democrats have, by the skin of their teeth, made themselves slightly more presentable, the Social Democrats could become jumpy than ever about the loyalty of their coalition partner.

and of an academic avoidance of experiment and controversy may have seemed serious when the company was formed in 1962, but they have been kept at bay. As well as planning to put on new and established work on its own account, the theatre intends to ask companies from outside London and from abroad to make appearances.

The building itself invites, and needs to have, a great many things going on in and around it. With its terraces and staircases it is almost as well adapted for dramatic activity outside as within. It will be impossible to make a judgment about the effect that the new building will have on its occupants until all three theatres are opened and the company has come to terms with the opportunities they offer. In particular, we must wait to see *Tamburlaine* in the big Olivier theatre. But whether the British ever wanted it or not, we have our National Theatre now, and also something without which it would be worthless, a company that shows every sign of being able to make the most of it.

## NATIONAL THEATRE AT LAST

said that it was something the British ought to have had. They wanted it or not, as Mr Barker said that it would be a cathedral of the arts; John Osborne feared that it would be a "ghastly museum". The voice is a rare one: National Theatre has been a which for more than a century has had few opponents many advocates inclined to turn "Nor yet". For a nation it to equip itself with a national theatre in the days most of its neighbours doing so may be mere fatal accident: but when it off until the opening of the silver jubilee of laying of the foundation stone inner national recalcitrance must be suspected.

reservations that have felt about the project are created with mistrust for its large, official, institutional and expensive. Either oaches and leaking roofs to guarantee the dedication of those who work in spite of, or those who still are up with such hardships the sight of subsidized

opulence for others. Now that the National Theatre will need the running grant comparable in size to Covent Garden's it will be as much criticized for hogging more than its share. Between them they will receive about a sixth of all that the Arts Council has to offer. There is no final answer to objections on these grounds. The argument for centres of excellence is less strong for the theatre than it is for opera, but it still has force. The regional theatre is at least no direct loser, for the public money that has gone to the National would have been unlikely otherwise to have gone to the arts at all.

The best answer to such doubts is shown. That will determine the National's usefulness to the stage as a whole as a source of ideas and experience. The company are not starting from scratch in the new building. They already have a tradition, a policy and a lively repertoire which is not reminiscent either of cathedrals or museums. The dangers of too much loftiness

and of an academic avoidance of experiment and controversy may have seemed serious when the company was formed in 1962, but they have been kept at bay. As well as planning to put on new and established work on its own account, the theatre intends to ask companies from outside London and from abroad to make appearances.

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## Key and the EEC

Mr David Rudnick

David Barchard's letter on the EEC (March 5) to service to Greek-Turkish relations. May I attempt to correct any inferences he has drawn from my article 21.

I am not particularly arguing for entry, by casting doubts on the school of a Turkish application. Greece's application has a 50 per cent chance of being judged on its merits rather than on its political moves.

Barchard admits that early entry to EEC is out of the question. The Greeks in present case for membership, are

anxious that their hypothetical reaction to any future Turkish application should not be used as a device to veto the current Greek application in advance. This would be as unfair to Turkey as it would be to Greece's prospective European partners would in any case be in a strong position to prevent her from exercising such a veto.

As for his reference to the Treaty of Sevres, it is sheer (vicarious) paranoia for Mr Barchard to see Europe ganging up behind Greece against Turkey today. He must be aware of Turkey's key strategic role to Europe and NATO, and of the constraints this exerts on European policy makers.

Turkey is pulled eastward as well as westward, as her culture and

religion plainly show. To state this fact is not to argue for her exclusion from EEC, but merely to indicate the existence of a rival pole of attraction. Since the oil crisis of 1973, financial and military power has shifted markedly towards the oil producing states on Turkey's south and east. Turkey now has to revise her previously low assessment of her Arab (and Iranian) neighbours' importance to her, and reconsider her hitherto axiomatic preference for an exclusively westward orientation.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID RUDNICK,  
8 Woodgrange Close,  
Kenton, Harrow,  
Middlesex,  
March 6.







# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

Personal  
investment  
and finance,  
pages 18 and 19

### Heavy support operations fail to check rapid slide of the French franc

From Peter Norman  
on, March 12

After a large-scale intervention on today to support the French franc on foreign exchange markets, European bankers are no longer doubting a will of the Bank of France of the West German Federal bank to withstand the present speculative pressures, but only air capacitor.

One foreign exchange expert Frankfurt estimated that intervention today could have been as high as 3,000m francs (about £440m), or more than yesterday's level of an estimated 1,000m to 1,500m.

Since the beginning of this year, the two central banks have bought a total of 7,000m francs in support operations, and it is being suggested in Frankfurt that since the beginning of this year the Bank of France has lost two-thirds of its currency reserves, which stood at around \$7,500m. The dealer said today that he never experienced such a pressure against a currency. Over the entire day the franc was planned to be at a lower intervention point, 568 marks to 100 francs, after the Federal Bank withdrew from the market as usual 4pm the French currency was below this.

In the other hand, few there thought that the German and French authorities had immediately abandon it attempt to keep exchange

rates within the "snake" at present levels.

The German government always has been in favour of the "snake" as a reminder of European economic and monetary union and as a factor forcing monetary discipline on EEC member states. This latter view now seems to be shared by the French government, which is extremely reluctant to devalue the franc against the other currencies because this would make more difficult the fight against inflation.

At the recent central bankers' meetings in Basel and on other occasions the French are understood to have stressed that, in terms of economic policy, bringing inflation down to at least the German level has the highest priority.

If the French fulfil this goal as planned this year, a devaluation of the franc at present would appear doubly unnecessary to them. On the German side there is absolute conviction that the mark is not at present undervalued.

In both Bonn and Frankfurt, the government and the Federal Bank agree that if the present recovery in the economy is to turn into a durable upswing, the current slight improvement in exports must be encouraged. In these circumstances a revaluation of the mark could be very damaging. Furthermore, it could have adverse electoral repercussions when the German general election is held.

The big question, however, is whether the French authori-

ties can continue to withstand the pressure against the franc. If two-thirds of France's currency reserves have been used up since the beginning of the year, this would appear to be good reason to doubt the Bank of France's capacity to resist continuing pressure.

On the other hand, Germany could be prepared to provide France with generous swap facilities to help defend the franc, particularly if Bonn is convinced of the French Government's anti-inflationary zeal.

Germany's not currency reserves totalled no less than DM74,000m (about £14,800m) at the end of February. Some bankers argue that if Germany is prepared to lend its reserves to Italy and Portugal, in the form of gold-backed loans, it will also be prepared to lend money to France to support the franc and with it the structure and concept of the "snake".

The suggestion that France will once again leave the "snake" is completely ruled out. The loss of the "snake" would, it is argued, be too great.

If changes are to come about in the joint European float, they could take the form of a general realignment of currencies affecting not just the French franc and the mark, but the entire European system. Such a realignment would be much easier to sell politically to the public in Germany and France.

### February trade gap widens to £249m

By Tim Congdon

Britain's trade position deteriorated in February after several months of steady improvement. The trade deficit was £249m, compared with £173m in January and £180m in December, according to figures released yesterday by the Department of Trade.

February's performance was worse than expected and financial markets reacted unfavourably. Prices of gilt-edged securities dropped by up to 1 point after the announcement, despite the absence of an increase in minimum lending rate.

The surplus on invisibles is estimated to have been £120m in February. After deducting this from the trade deficit, the balance on the current account came to £129m, compared with £133m in January and £59m in December.

Last month's figures disappointed hopes that Britain's payments position would soon show the black. Such hopes had been expressed after the run of recent figures which showed a continuous recovery from the very large deficits of last autumn.

But it was too early to say that the better trend has come to an end, and a comparison of the latest three-monthly period with the previous three-monthly period indicates a continuation in the deficit. It is possible that February was an erratically bad month.

#### UNITED KINGDOM TRADE

The following are the February trade figures, seasonally adjusted and corrected on a balance of payments basis with allowance for known recording errors, as released by the Department of Trade:

	Exports	Imports	Visible balance
1973	11,771	14,066	-2,295
1974	15,895	21,159	-5,264
1975	18,772	21,972	-3,200
1976	1,452	5,352	-3,900
Q1	4,623	5,821	-1,198
Q2	4,126	5,809	-1,683
Q3	1,582	1,792	-210
Q4	1,728	1,845	-117
Nov	1,657	1,815	-158
Dec	1,731	1,946	-215
1976	1,778	1,951	-173
Jan	1,758	2,055	-297
Feb	1,758	2,055	-297

In the three months to February, the total current account deficit was £249m—less than in the three months to November, when it was £335m. Moreover, the improvement would have been greater but for a rise in the oil deficit, which rose from £141m in the latest three-monthly period, £200m in January, £141m in the three months to November.

Exports came to £1,758m in February, slightly down from January, but volume has risen by 4 per cent in the last three months and there is no doubt the trend remains strongly upward.

A recent survey of businessmen's expectations about overseas sales conducted by the Department of Trade indicated a 10 per cent rise in export volume by the third quarter of this year over the 1975 period. The depreciation of sterling earlier in the week is likely to have made sales prospects abroad even better.

The benefits from export growth would be offset if imports also began to expand rapidly. Most observers are afraid a revival of domestic activity might be accompanied by a rebuilding of stocks of raw materials, many of which have to be bought abroad.

#### TERMS OF TRADE

The following are the unit value index numbers for visible trade (not seasonally adjusted) issued by the Department of Trade yesterday:

	1970=100 Exports	1970=100 Imports	Terms of Trade
1972	111.0	109.6	101.3
1973	126.0	139.7	90.2
1974	162.7	218.0	74.6
1975	192.5	245.7	80.8
1976	184.9	240.5	76.9
Q1	183.4	241.1	80.2
Q2	202.4	247.1	81.9
Q3	210.1	280.4	80.7
Q4	204.9	249.6	82.1
September	207.2	255.8	81.0
October	210.5	260.5	80.8
November	212.6	264.8	80.3
December	215.6	265.3	81.0
1976	215.6	265.3	81.0
January	215.6	265.3	81.0
February	215.6	265.3	81.0

Export Unit Value Index as a percentage of Import Unit Value Index.

Provisional.

peak in the third quarter last year.

Most economic forecasts are for a large trade deficit this year. The National Institute of Economic and Social Research, which published its *Economic Review* on Wednesday, is expecting the deficit to be £2,450m. The gap would have to widen from its present level to reach this figure.

### Rights issue and more state aid for Penrad

By Margaret Walters

An extraordinary refinancing package including one of the most unconventional issues ever seen, plus further substantial government funding for troubled Penrad, Welsh radiator manufacturer, flabbergasted leading stock jobbers and market men in the City yesterday.

The rights element in the £380,000 package involves the issue on a one-for-two basis of £200,000 worth of convertible redeemable 25p second preference shares at par, with warrants to subscribe for ordinary shares at 30p per share on the basis of one preference share for every two ordinary.

Although the package is reminiscent of some of the more exotic concoctions of the 1971-72 bull market, it is clear from the heavily qualified analysts' report that the company, already heavily supported by the Government, would be in serious financial trouble if these arrangements should fail.

As well as the currently interest-free £300,000 loan made by the Department of Industry last year, Penrad had been offered a further £100,000 by the Secretary of State for Wales, after consideration by the department, in the form of redeemable first preference shares.

Agreement on this latter assistance contained the unusual condition that Mr Tony Morgan, the group's current chief executive and former head of the Purle Brothers waste disposal group, should be on the board.

Mr Morgan and his team took control of Penrad in January this year after acquiring a 28 per cent shareholding. One of the other single largest shareholders is the wife of a Department of Industry employee, Mr Stephen Maltz, the former chairman of the company.

Mr Maltz was recently named as a defendant in the now settled 55m Tremain suit against Tower's auditors and financial advisers. Mrs Maltz, who has a 15 per cent holding in Penrad, said she had been offered a further £100,000 by the Secretary of State for Wales, after consideration by the department, in the form of redeemable first preference shares.

### Paris devaluation fears growing

Melvin Westlake  
one currency market lists are now convinced that French franc will eventually be devalued by between 10 per cent against the mark and 30 per cent against the dollar.

The three-month mark franc is now discounting a fall of nearly 4 per cent against the mark and 30 per cent against the dollar.

There is some division of opinion, however, about whether this might be unimpaired within a more realistic range of "snake" currencies or by a straight devaluation of the franc. It is suggested that a small devaluation of the franc would be a devaluation of the mark, and a devaluation of the mark would be a devaluation of the franc.

The French government, however, puts most of the blame for the franc's weakness on the Bank of England and the circumstances of the pound's recent rapid fall.

It is widely believed in Paris that the British Government has sought to obtain a devaluation of the pound over and over.

totalled the equivalent of between \$1,000m and \$1,500m. On the forward currency markets the discount on the franc rose sharply.

In fact the drop in the values of sterling, the lira and peseta are actually due to a small appreciation of the French franc, in effective terms, since late January, making French exports less competitive.

A marked deterioration in France's external competitiveness, together with the cyclical recession in its trade position, are the underlying reasons why the market believes a devaluation of the franc must come—and probably soon.

The French government, however, puts most of the blame for the franc's weakness on the Bank of England and the circumstances of the pound's recent rapid fall.

It is widely believed in Paris that the British Government has sought to obtain a devaluation of the pound over and over.

above the amount necessary to offset the faster rate of inflation in Britain than elsewhere. This suspicion has led to charges that Britain is exporting unemployment and risking sparking off a round of competitive devaluations.

The pound lost 0.9 cents against the dollar yesterday to close at \$1.9265. Sterling's "floating devaluation" against 10 currencies (from the December 1971, base-date) rose to 33.5 from 33.3 per cent on Thursday.

Disappointing trade figures and the failure to increase the minimum lending rate yesterday prompted fresh selling of sterling, and the Bank of England is thought to have provided a further \$50m to \$100m support. This is rather less than in recent days.

Forward rates, however, went to a larger discount against the dollar. The three-month forward pound was discounting a further 1.4 per cent fall, at \$1.9000.

### £3m backing could have rescued AIP

By John Brennan

Guarantees involving 30m French francs (£3m), are believed to have been the final link in the chain of events leading to the collapse on Thursday of Amalgamated Investment Property, Britain's eighth largest property group.

It appears that by last weekend AIP had reached agreement in principle with a consortium of seven French banks—led by Credit Lyonnais, which is providing finance for the huge Pacific Bureaux office project in Paris—to dispose of its interest in the scheme.

Pacific Bureaux has proved to be a financial disaster for AIP. It was already cost upwards of £20m, is still only about one-third completed, and is totally unlet.

The development has been costing AIP £2m a year in interest payments, apart from the £20m already spent on the scheme. The French banks were prepared to accept a guarantee from any or all of AIP's other banks and creditors in this country that the money would be paid within three years, but it seems that the British banks were unwilling to provide such a guarantee.

Unable to dispose of the French development, and with little prospect of being able to make the scheme revenue-producing within the foreseeable future, AIP had no option but to cease trading.

Credit Lyonnais and the rest of the French banking consortium are expected to foreclose on the Pacific Bureaux scheme some time next week. And so the scheme will be completed by the French banks after all.

Following AIP's main creditors, led by Barclays Bank, were beginning the process of sorting out the cross-guarantees and loan securities involved in AIP's complicated structure of subsidiary companies.

In line with their intention to carry out an orderly disposal of AIP's assets, the main creditors have appointed Mr Eric Vanebo to act as a M. Homan of accountants receiver for a substantial part of the portfolio. Mr Stuart Young, of Hacker Young, has been appointed receiver of the Amalgamated House, AIP's main British development, and Victoria Station House.

Talks were in progress yesterday over the future of AIP's 40 per cent stake in Midland White Holdings, the publicly quoted property company.

### Path clear for Saudi takeover of Aramco

From Frank Vogl  
Washington, March 12

The path now appears to have been cleared for the full takeover by the Saudi Arabian Government of the world's largest oil-exporting company, the Arabian American Oil Company (Aramco), in what could well prove to be the largest oil deal ever transacted.

Aramco announced today, after five days of secret negotiations in Florida with Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, Saudi Arabia's oil minister, that "general accord was reached on all major issues".

The oil company, whose producing assets are already 60 per cent controlled by the Saudi Arabian Government, said that technical and legal preparations were now going forward for a final meeting to conclude the agreement formally. Aramco is jointly owned by Exxon, Mobil, Texaco and Standard Oil of California.

The negotiations were held at a country club in Panama City, Florida. The Saudi minister demanded stringent security measures as a condition for coming to the meeting, and the club's grounds were constantly patrolled by dozens of secret service agents and police.

Aramco would disclose today only that the meeting had ended with agreements being reached and that a concluding meeting was being arranged.

The Saudi Arabian Embassy in Washington refused to discuss any aspect of the meeting, and refused even to state whether Sheikh Yamani was still in Florida or whether he had returned home.

Details of the agreement may have a major impact on world oil developments. It may greatly strengthen Saudi Arabia's control over all its oil assets; but this is unlikely to make Saudi Arabia more militant in Opec discussions.

Indeed, Mr Gerald Parsky, assistant secretary of the Treasury responsible for oil matters, who has just returned from the Middle East, said here today that Saudi Arabia would continue to press for an oil price freeze at the forthcoming Opec price-setting meeting.

Mr Parsky added that some Opec countries were pressing for price increases now, and that Saudi Arabia would oppose them so strongly as to endanger Opec's unity.

He said he doubted whether Opec members would try to raise prices by more than 10 per cent.

It seems probable that decisions have been taken allowing Saudi Arabia to take full control of Aramco's producing assets.

### Second best month for the societies

By Margaret Stone

February proved one of the best months for the building society movement with net receipts of £554m only exceeded by the inflow of £400m in April 1975. Despite the shorter number of days to the month, February's total was comfortably over the £512m of net receipts recorded in January.

However, there was a slight easing off in the amount advanced to home buyers, which at £400m was £23m less than in January. Some promised to prospectively purchase on the other hand, rose from £449m to £488m.

The continuing excellent trend to building society receipts adds further substance to the growing calls upon the rates. The Building Societies Association, however, is standing firm behind its decision not to discuss interest rates until after the Budget.

Originally it had been assumed that the BSA Council meeting on April 9 would automatically lead to a reduction in the investment rate and hence the cost of mortgages.

But the parlous situation of the pound, with increasing speculation that interest rates are general might begin to turn upwards sharply, no longer makes it seem a foregone conclusion that the societies will enforce an all-round lowering of their rates.

Mr Raymond Potter, chairman of the Building Societies Association, who is also chairman of the Halifax Building Society, gave warnings earlier in the week of the possible dangers of a premature cut in interest rates if the decision had to be reversed within a few months.

However, despite the pressure on the societies to lower their rates, there is no evidence to suggest that they are losing any of their attractiveness for investors. So a cut in the rates still seems the most likely outcome.

Commenting on the figures released yesterday by the Association, Mr Norman Griggs, the secretary-general, said although mortgage demand was brisk, the average price of new and second-hand homes was virtually static.

### Stiff EEC terms for 1,000m Rome loan

Italy, March 12—Italy gave its EEC partners a pledge to abstain from any restrictions if it wants to a \$1,000m (about £150m) Community loan, EEC officials disclosed today.

The loan terms and conditions under which it is granted are to be decided by finance ministers today.

An important condition will be that Italy must avoid any restrictions on exports or imports. Italy is also expected to pursue a policy of stability in incomes.

Italy will also be obliged to the growth of 1976 must spending over 1975.

Other condition for the loan is that only 5,700m lire of the loan can be used for the purchase of government bonds and the loan can be used by the Italian central bank and the loan can be used by the Italian central bank and the loan can be used by the Italian central bank.

If there should be need to exceed the prescribed ceiling on the deficit growth, the government is being advised to cover this through increased tax.

EEC finance ministers will also have to finally approve a \$300m (about £45m) Community loan to Ireland and the economic conditions attached.

Under the conditions, officials said, Ireland must see to it that in 1976 the amount of credit sought by the government remains at the same percentage level of the gross national product as in 1975.

The country will also be obliged to cover its public financing on the non-monetary sector, officials said, explaining that public loans should be sought for much financing.

Officials also confirmed earlier reports that a banking consortium managed by West Germany's Deutsche Bank will raise the \$1,000m for Italy at fixed interest rates.—AP-DJ.

### France demands curb on Italian shoes and tights

From David Cross  
Brussels, March 12

Only a few days after the settlement of the Franco-Italian wine war, the European Community's free trade system is again under pressure from the French.

A French government delegation was in Brussels today to press for Community action to restrict imports of shoes and women's tights from Italy. Although the French have not yet spelled out the type of action they are seeking, they want the Commission to take measures to offset the recent de facto devaluation of the lira.

They argue that the decline in the value of the lira has resulted in a flood of imports of cheap shoes and tights into France, to the detriment of their own industries in these sectors.

In the Pougères region of northern France, where 15 per cent of the population are out of work, three factories have recently been forced to close down.

### France demands curb on Italian shoes and tights

From David Cross  
Brussels, March 12

Only a few days after the settlement of the Franco-Italian wine war, the European Community's free trade system is again under pressure from the French.

A French government delegation was in Brussels today to press for Community action to restrict imports of shoes and women's tights from Italy. Although the French have not yet spelled out the type of action they are seeking, they want the Commission to take measures to offset the recent de facto devaluation of the lira.

They argue that the decline in the value of the lira has resulted in a flood of imports of cheap shoes and tights into France, to the detriment of their own industries in these sectors.

In the Pougères region of northern France, where 15 per cent of the population are out of work, three factories have recently been forced to close down.

### £45m budget for CEBG job-creating projects

By Roger Violevoe  
Energy Correspondent

Commitments under the electricity industry for starting projects specifically to create employment will be increased from £25m to a maximum of £45m.

The largest of these projects, the oil-fired power station at Ince, in Cheshire, was ordered by the Central Electricity Generating Board at the request of the Government to help job prospects in the heavy electrical industry in the North-east.

Because of inflation the £25m limit imposed under the Electricity Act of 1972 will be exceeded when the next payment is due in October. Provision for the increased disbursement is made in the Energy Bill, published yesterday.

The Bill is also designed to replace legislation introduced during the energy crisis of 1973-74. The machinery for controlling the supply and use of energy in an emergency is subject to an annual review, and expires at the end of November unless renewed by Order.

### Shares marked down

With an unchanged minimum lending rate the London stock market stayed quietly firm yesterday until disappointing February trade figures brought a swift mark down of prices. The FT index, although closing 1.8 lower at 410.0, was 5.3 up over the week.

Investor's week, page 19

### George H. Scholes & Co. Limited

ELECTRICAL PRODUCTS

INTERIM STATEMENT

audited results for the half-year to 31st December 1975:

	1975	1974
Revenue	2,001	2,000
Profit before tax	270	264
Profit after tax	250	243
Rate per share	4p	4p
Dividend	171	171
Retained	79	72

Rate per share based on profit, after tax, 10p above

5.8p 5.7p

audited results for the half-year to 31st December, 1975, shown above. These results bear out the remarks made in annual Statement.

Directors have today declared an Interim Dividend of 4p here payable on 12th May, 1976, to shareholders on the list at 5th May, 1976.

G. R. C. McDowell,  
Chairman  
12th March, 1976

### Moratorium plan by insurance broking firm

Lattimer Robinson, the insurance broker which has some £30,000 of clients' money included among its estimated liabilities of some £75,000 put out a statement saying that it was seeking a moratorium under the Companies Act, and indicated that without cooperation of Windsor Life, a former substantial shareholder, a subsequent liquidation would seem inevitable.

Windsor has said it does not feel morally or legally obliged to offer aid.

In early 1975 Windsor Life decided to write off £25,000 of loans to the broking firm and sell its share for £1 to its principal director Mr Malcolm Robinson. The name of the firm was subsequently changed to Lattimer Robinson & Partners. Also a £28,000 debenture to the company was made available by Windsor.

The crux of Mr Robinson's arguments against Windsor is that the Windsor Life products marketed by LR did not come up to investment expectations so that the brokers had to reduce its selling prices accordingly. This led to changes within LR and helped precipitate the present cash crisis.

### How the markets moved

The Times index: 168.83 -0.13  
The FT index: 410.0 -1.8

#### Rises

Beatson Clark	6p to 9 1/2p
Blackwood M	2p to 2 1/2p
Cater Ryl	15p to 25p
De Beers Ind	10p to 37p
Edinburgh L	8p to 14p
Gallatin Ind	4p to 4 1/2p
Harmony	40p to 42p

#### Falls

BP	7p to 6 1/2p
Cup & Cables	2p to 1 1/2p
Duncan Higgs	3p to 4 1/2p
Excelbair	2p to 8p
Ferriman B	3p to 4 1/2p
James L	20p to 37p
Shaw Higgs	7p to 37p

Equities were set back by the trade figures.

Gilt-edged securities were similarly easier.

Sterling dropped 90 pts to 1.9265. The effective devaluation rate was 33.5 per cent.

On other pages

Bank Base Rates Table 21  
Company Meeting Reports: 20  
English & New York Trust 17  
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#### THE POUND

	Bank	Bank
	buy	sell
Australia S	1.60	1.54
Austria Sch	36.75	34.75
Belgium Fr	60.38	74.50
Canada S	5.18	5.18
Denmark Kr	12.39	11.98
Finland Mk	7.65	7.40
France Fr	9.00	8.70
Germany Dm	5.15	4.95
Greece Dr	65.38	65.38
Hongkong S	9.95	9.55
Italy Lr	160.00	154.00
Japan Yn	605.00	580.00
Netherlands Gld	2.35	2.15
Norway Kr	14.08	13.88
Portugal Esc	52.00	51.00
S Africa Rd	2.35	2.08
Spain Pes	131.50	125.50
Sweden Kr	8.75	8.45
Switzerland Fr	5.48	4.95
US S	1.95	1.93
Yugoslavia Dnr	35.50	35.00

Prices for small denomination bank notes only as indicated, securities by Bank of London International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Reports, pages 20 and 21

Unit Trusts:

M & G 18

Save & Prosper 19

### THE ENGLISH AND NEW YORK TRUST COMPANY, LIMITED

Extracts from the Statement by the Chairman Mr. I. M. L. D. Forde, O.B.E. in the Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st December 1975.

● Net earnings available for the ordinary stock rose from £722,104 to £784,811.

● The recommended total dividend is 1.90p net which together with related tax credits is equivalent to 11.68p gross, an increase of 13.25p on the total dividend paid for the previous year.

● The net asset value of each ordinary stock unit rose from 41p to 79p, an increase of over 92%.

● At 31st December 1975 the proportion of the portfolio invested in the U.K. was 55.1%, in the U.S.A. 35.1% and in other overseas areas 9.8%.

REVENUE-AVAILABLE FOR ORDINARY STOCK (Net)

1975 1974

£784,811 £722,104

EARNED FOR ORDINARY STOCK (Net)

2,749p 1,900p



## PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

## Commodities

## Investment is easier in raw materials funds

The sorry state of sterling this week has had a variety of repercussions, not least in the commodity markets where both "hard" and "soft" commodities have been remembered as traditional currency hedges.

In fact, the ravages to the pound have come as an additional bonus to the commodity investors who were already pinning their faith on the basis of a worldwide trade recovery: as economies move out of recession, the commodity demand for raw materials will be substantially increased.

A third plus element in the calculations of commodity investors are the political considerations in the mining and primary producers' different corners of the globe. Particular attention has been paid to copper, which rose 7 per cent on the week, of which land-locked Zambia, faced with conflagration in neighbouring Rhodesia, is a major exporter.

But having whetted the individual's appetite for commodity investment, the big question is how? Commodity investment is complicated and many would-be investors will be deterred by margins, options, futures and spot prices not to mention stop-loss position, etc.

Additionally, the cost of commodity investment may be a deterrent. A course in a physical commodity such as copper would at the moment work out at nearly £17,000 per contract; in the futures market

only a 10 per cent margin is required but it has to be maintained whatever the price.

An alternative is to invest in commodities through a relatively new investment vehicle: the direct commodity fund (as opposed to commodity share funds which have a longer history). These are all offshore funds—among other things it is not possible to have an authorized unit trust investing directly in commodities—and nearly all sponsored by some of the well-known names among the unit trust industry as well as merchant banks.

What is interesting is the range which they offer: the potential investor in commodities. At one extreme the Surinvest fund is exclusively invested in physical copper—the actual metal held in warehouses as opposed to futures. At the other, the Commodities and Options Unit Trust is a more speculative vehicle which invests in a broad spread of commodities and takes full advantage of futures trading and options.

Other funds are a compromise. The First Viking Trust puts 40 per cent of its money into commodity futures and options and the balance goes into high-yield gross-paying securities (because of its Isle of Man base), which means that the fund is yielding 9½ per cent. The recently launched and hence well timed Old Court Commodity Trust divides its fund between direct commodity investment and commodity

shares with a 10 per cent balance on deposits.

As a general guide, it would be unwise to commit all of one's assets to a commodity fund. Indeed, N. M. Rothschild is recommending no more than a 5 per cent exposure to commodities.

In other investment houses it is felt the proportion invested in commodities could be a little higher—but 10 to 15 per cent is generally considered enough. Several of the companies, such as the Channel Islands arms of Save and Prosper and Surinvest also make it clear in their literature that only applications coming through a professional adviser will be accepted.

Two notes of caution must be sounded. First, check the charges of the funds. Most operate on a fee structure fairly similar to that of unit trusts, but Commodities and Options has an additional entry and management fee plus incentive fees (based on performance) which work out more costly for the smaller investor.

Secondly, there is a slight doubt in some people's opinion—notably at S. G. Warburg and M. & G.—that individual investors in these commodity funds might be taxed as traders (ie, be liable to tax at their top rate of income tax rather than a maximum capital gains tax of 30 per cent) on the profits arising from the investment. The other groups, also having taken counsel's opinion, disagree.

Margaret Stone

## MANAGED FUNDS

Minimum investment	Last published offer price	Investment advisers and commodity brokers	Comment
Commodity Fund (Save & Prosper Jersey)	1,000 shares 104.8p	Robert Wolff & Gill & Duffus	All commodities; no more than 37½% in any one commodity; restrictions on amount of futures and options
'Metals Trust' (S. G. Warburg)	20 shares 29.95	Brandeis Goldschmidt	5 principal LME metals physicals
Old Court Commodity Trust (N. M. Rothschild)	1,000 units 106p	Merrill Lynch Pierce Fenner Smith	45% commodities; no more than 10% in any one commodity; 45% in commodity shares; restrictions on amount of futures and options
Copper Trust (Surinvest)	50 shares £11.81	G. W. Joynson	To invest exclusively in physical copper
Commodities and Options Unit Trust	£1,000 98.8p	Commodity Analysis	All forms of commodity trading; Max. 40% in commodity futures & options; balance in high yielding securities
First Viking Trust	£100 27.2p	M. L. Duxford	

\* Restricted to tax-exempt investors such as pension funds.

## Act before 5th APRIL to claim extra tax relief now

Our new Plan enables you to get off to a flying start and build up a small fortune for the future.

For every £10 you pay during this financial year, ending 5th April, you can claim £175 tax relief. So you can get the maximum advantage of this tax relief, we are making it possible, with the special application form below, for you to backdate your monthly payments further than ever before—to the start of the current financial year.

Suppose you want to save £10 a month and you have £120 available for investment. By backdating your Plan, you can send us a cheque for 12 months' payments (£120) and claim tax relief of £240.

We will send you a form to take care of all future monthly payments automatically, and you can continue to claim tax relief throughout the investment period of your Plan.

How much will my Plan be worth? Unit Trusts are the best way for most of us to invest in stocks and shares owing to their full-time professional management and widely spread portfolio. With an M&G Unit Trust Assurance Plan you pay £10 a month or more for up to 20 years. How your investment builds up depends on the growth in the value of the units bought with your payments, reflecting both capital appreciation and ploughed-back income. As an example, a £10 Plan taken out with the M&G General Trust Fund 20 years ago would now be worth £5,862, having cost a total of £2,040.

**Pound Cost Averaging:** Regular monthly investment gives you the benefits of "Pound Cost Averaging". By this method, when you invest a regular amount, you buy more units when the price is low than when it is high. Thus you build up a holding at an average price lower than the average of unit prices for the period and gain a genuine arithmetical advantage to your personal investment planning.

**Long-term build-up.** Unit Trust Assurance is designed for long-term investment. But you can stop your Plan or cash it in at any time. Clearly, the longer you keep it going the greater the likely benefit.

If you do cash in or stop your payments during the first four years there is a penalty, and the tax authorities require us to make a deduction. So you should not consider the Plan for less than five years. High-rate tax payers are advised not to stop payments or to cash in within ten years, for tax reasons.

**Life Assurance Cover.** As soon as your application is accepted your life is assured for 180 times your normal monthly payment. So £10 a month gives you £1,800 life cover.

**M&G—Unit Trust Funders.** M&G were the first company in Britain to introduce the unit trust form of saving, in 1931. Today we look after over £500,000,000 for some 300,000 savers and investors.

**M&G employ no salesmen.** Costs are low, and as much as from 86% to 94% of your payments, depending on your starting age, is invested, except in the first two years when we invest 20 per cent to meet setting-up expenses.

Your regular investment in the M&G General Trust Fund (valued at over £50,000,000) is spread among a carefully chosen selection of stocks and shares, including many blue chips—with the profits and dividends ploughed back for the benefit of the investors.

**How to join.** Complete the application form below and return it to us with your cheque for the first payment. The maximum starting age is 54 (women 58). If you are 50 or over, or want to save more than £20 per month, or cannot sign Part I of the Declaration, delete that part of the declaration and we will send you our standard proposal form.

**BACKDATED POLICIES CAN ONLY BE ISSUED IN RESPECT OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED NOT LATER THAN 5th APRIL, 1976.**

To: M&G Trust (Assurance) Ltd, Three Quays, Tower Hill, London EC3R 6BQ. Tel: 01-462 4588.

I WISH TO SAVE ☐ £ ☐ 00 EACH MONTH (minimum £10) and I enclose my cheque for £ ☐ 00 representing ☐ monthly payments (not more than twelve) payable to M&G Trust (Assurance) Ltd.

I understand that my money will be invested in the M&G General Trust Fund.

SURNAME  INITIALS

FULL FORENAME(S)

ADDRESS

OCCUPATION

NAME OF USUAL DOCTOR (to whom reference may be made)

DATE OF BIRTH

ARE YOU AN EXISTING M&G PLAN HOLDER? ☐ YES ☐ NO

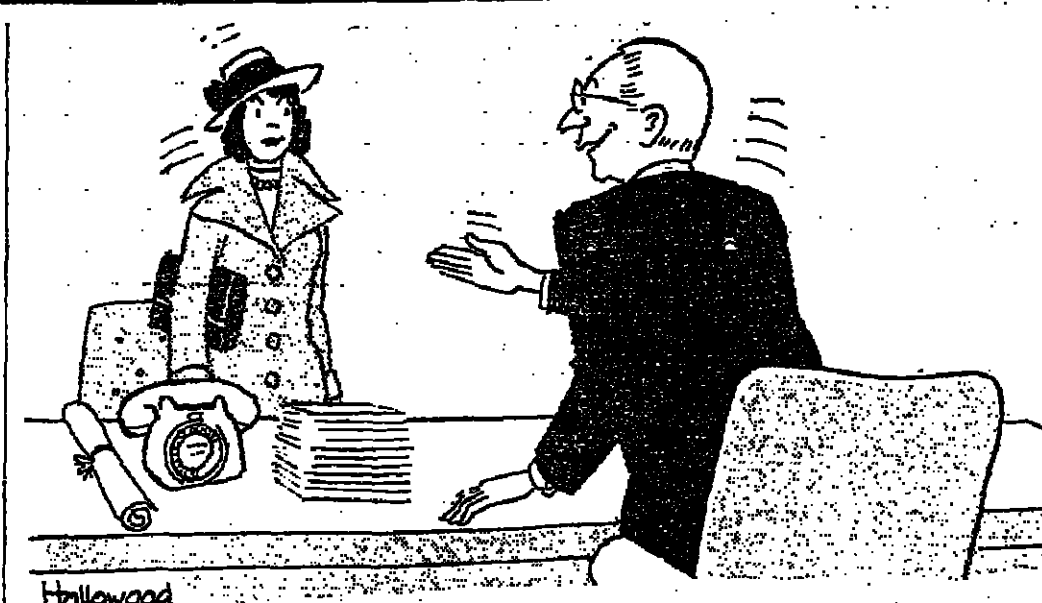
**Declaration.** PART I I declare that, to the best of my belief, I am in good health and free from all disease, that I have not had any serious illness or major operation, that I do not engage in any hazardous sports or pursuits, that I do not engage in aviation except as a fully paying passenger on a recognized airline, and that no person named in this declaration or any declaration made by me in connection with this proposal, shall be the basis of the contract between me and M&G Trust (Assurance) Limited, and that I will accept their ordinary form of policy.

SIGNATURE  DATE

Registered in England No. 684893. Registered Office: M&G Trust (Assurance) Ltd, 32, Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF. This offer is not available to residents of the Republic of Ireland.

Members of the Life Office Association.

**M&G**



Hollywood

"...so he is unlikely to feel aggrieved that you want to do him out of business."

## Law

## A do-it-yourself kit for the county court...

So you want to fight your own case in court? Then take heart: litigants in person are not to be looked down upon any more.

By contrast, they even receive encouragement to go it alone. Simplified procedures and special facilities have been made available and further incentives are on the way.

This is not to say that all civil disputes are suitable for personal treatment. Points of law are usually best left to lawyers and the facts in some cases baffle even legal minds.

But, as indicated in *Small Claims in the County Court*, a guide issued by the Lord Chancellor's Office, there are plenty of small claims which can be brought before the court without any legal knowledge or professional assistance.

The obvious litigant is the aggrieved consumer who is involved in a claim arising out of the sale or hire-purchase of goods or the provision of services. But straightforward debt cases, some landlord and tenant matters, road traffic cases involving damage to vehicles only, claims for wilful damage to property or for minor assaults and claims for wages and salaries owing in lieu of notice may all present feasible scope for the layman.

Whether a case lies within the confines of simplicity is not always clear but no solicitor should mind being consulted on the question of whether given circumstances might admit of personal action. County court work is notoriously unremunerative and he is unlikely to feel aggrieved that you want to do him out of business.

If you are of limited means you may qualify for free or subsidized advice on this matter under the Green Form Scheme and if the solicitor chosen then considers the case beyond your capabilities and of a sort that should be fought with the aid of a solicitor, he may advise the making of an application for legal aid to cover the cost of proceedings to court.

Legal aid is available to many whose financial resources exclude them from the Green Form Scheme and details, both are available from Citizens' and Consumer Advice Bureaux and, of course, solicitors' offices.

Saving a bill from you, you are, of course, the first to experience the advantages of the system. The general rule in county court litigation is that the loser pays the legal costs of the winner, or at least so much of those costs as are approved by the court.

The latter is rarely as much as the total bill presented by the solicitor to his client but will be large none the less.

It is almost always impossible

to guess how much the costs will be in a contested case—the total depends on so many variable factors. But it is probably no exaggeration to say that even when suing in person for £200 you will incur at most the same sum at risk by way of the other side's legal costs and your own expenses.

In smaller claims, however, a special rule applies. Where the sum in dispute does not exceed £100 the legal costs recoverable by the winner are normally limited to those of issuing the summons; no costs are usually recoverable for representation at the trial or arbitration of the matter.

The loser will thus rarely pay more than a few pounds for the winner's expenses. It is, therefore, sensible when considering self-help in the county court to keep that figure of £100 well in mind: below it the risks as to costs are much reduced.

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## Motor insurance

## Why don't the insurers give this accidents statement a chance?

On the Continent extensive use is made of an accident statement form which is completed by both drivers. The aim is to set down quickly (while everything is fresh in the mind) facts which can be agreed by both motorists—such as names and addresses of drivers, owners and witnesses, direction of travel of the cars, when the accident occurred, position of the cars after impact, and so on.

The form is designed to be completed quite quickly. There are identical sections for each driver and drawings of cars to show the point of impact. A copy is produced automatically so that, having agreed the facts, each driver has a copy for his insurers.

Could this idea be adopted in this country—to speed the settlement of claims and to reduce insurers' costs in handling claims?

In 1974 the General Accident (the largest motor insurers in the country) started an experiment by sending similar forms to 70,000 motor policy-holders living in the South-west of England. Policy-holders were asked to use the forms in the event of an accident and to try to persuade others with whom they might be involved to co-operate in their completion.

It is no secret that the response has been low, probably partly owing to the fact that it is entirely new; and partly because the General Accident motorists may have declined to co-operate, not understanding the purpose of the form and feeling they might be "caught" in some way.

Now, the General Accident has made changes by incorporating the basic claim form and is sending another batch of about 50,000 policy-holders in the Lincoln, York and Hull areas.

I believe that this is a scheme which might help motorists and insurers alike. So often,

claim forms from give conflicting "often because of the before completion of and the fact that become blurred, who has had a stiff drink one's nerves or not. I do not think, however the experiment has in fact, the market for leading motor insurers, prepared to join the General Accident and so give it a go. Some, such as the Royal Exchange, make inquiries and say forward to hearing it of the experiment, but doubt, the market for leading motor insurers will make recommendations.

Royal Insurance, interested, seems determined to involve itself in the experiment; and mercantile Union is in favour, saying that it is one more form to be taken (when motorists may state of shock) and so on.

It is all very well about waiting for the experiment; but not amount to more motorists going on and, these forms. To say with the best of intentions, General Accident is effort unless others operate.

Few motorists who that the present day is ideal from their view, especially when trying to make a record of the accident. Even if they had, it could be worth motor insurers to go a wholehearted trial would have some which to base their

John Drum

## The Foreign and Colonial Investment Trust Company Limited

(MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF INVESTMENT TRUST COMPANIES)

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday, 1st April, 1976 at 12.30 p.m. Following are extracts from the statement by the Chairman, Mr. H. C. Baring, which has circulated with the Report and Accounts.

In 1975 there was a strong recovery in share prices and the steep falls triggered off by the crisis of November 1973 were finally halted. The FT-Actuaries All-Share Index (Lyon increased by 136% compared with a fall of 56% in the previous year, and the Standard and F 500 Share Index (New York—adjusted) rose 45% compared with a fall of 8% in 1974.

In comparison our consolidated assets less current liabilities increased from £79.7 m to £132.2 million, while consolidated net assets per share increased from 93p to 167p, an increase of 80%. Since we started the year with high liquidity and the value of our U.K. holdings never exceeded 40% of our total portfolio, we could not expect to beat the FT-Actuaries All-Share Index (London).

Gross revenue of £5,015,000 was up 6% compared with £4,795,000 last year. The £1 has decided to recommend that the final dividend be increased from 1.612p to 1.76p, a total of 2.58p as against 2.412p last year. During the year approximately £4.8 million invested in the U.K. market of which £1.5 million was used in taking up rights to new issues.

In July 1975 we arranged a new £5 million unsecured loan repayable in July 1980 principal movement of our investments overseas has been the withdrawal of £1.6 million South Africa following the sale of gold shares in April/May, and the increase of £2.9 million Japan, £1.8 million in Brazil, £1.2 million in Europe and £1 million in the U.S.A.

In November F. & C. Management played a major role in forming "The Brazil Fund" which designed to invest in a diversified portfolio of Brazilian securities. Our company owns of the Fund's issued capital.

Since the year end we have taken up the new stocks issued by London and Scottish Oil and Scottish Canadian Oil and Transportation through which your company has for years had a small participation in the Ninian oil field. The total cost of supporting this North Sea investment will amount to £1.9 million.

The capitalists system and private enterprise have been under constant attack in this country for failing to invest enough in plant and new machinery. The attackers conveniently forget handicaps as severe inflation, high interest rates, price controls, dividend limitation, changing tax systems, excessive pay claims, and sometimes the outright refusal of Trade Unions to operate labour saving machinery. Against this background it is hardly surprising that investment has been lacking. Capitalism has not failed—it is being strangled by restrictions. In fact, it has to be created before it can be shared.

The extension of public ownership certainly provides no answer to our industrial problems. Our nationalised industries, save for labour relations, are overmaneuvered and riddled with restrictive practices. Too often they appear to be run solely for the benefit of labour force or for political convenience. Many of their problems have been accentuated by continual Government interference, and the Heath administration was not blameless in respect. Sound economic and industrial decisions have frequently been sacrificed for political reasons.

At last the Government is trying to reverse some of the disastrous policies that won the Election, but landed the country with the worst inflation of modern times, nil growth interest rates, and huge overseas debts. Fortunately it no longer accepts every piece of thrust upon it by the T.U.C. The much heralded Social Contract proved to be highly inflated and totally divorced from economic reality. However, the £6 a week incomes policy has helped to reduce the rate of inflation. Any new policy must make certain that this country's adequate incentives to its best brains and top management by ensuring that skill, initiative and responsibility are rewarded.

It looks as if the U.S. economy is turning upwards and this will help other countries out of recession. In our own case this will be a very slow and painful process. Provided Government does not renege too soon, there is a prospect of a steady reduction in inflation lowering of interest rates, and some hope for the future prosperity of this country.

## Ten year record

Year ended 31st Dec.	Consolidated net assets	Revenue before interest and expenses	Earnings and ordinary dividends (adjusted) Earned	Net asset value per 25p share (adjusted)	Market value of £100 of shares
1966	66,000,000	2,713,000	1.88	1.689	80
1967	84,000,000	2,887,000	1.76	1.689	124
1968	131,000,000	2,906,000	1.52	1.689	177
1969	120,800,000	3,258,000	1.17	1.689	153
1970	100,000,000	3,434,000	1.72	1.689	127
1971	125,000,000	3,254,000	1.61	1.792	167
1972	161,000,000	3,232,000	1.63	1.899	218
1973	120,000,000	4,078,000	2.08	2.240	151
1974	80,000,000	4,795,000	2.87	2.412	93
1975	132,000,000	5,015,000	2.84	2.580	167

\* 1966 to 1973 figures adjusted so as to allow comparison with those for 1974 and 1975 under the full imputation tax system.

DISTRIBUTION OF INVESTMENTS OF PARENT COMPANY  
United Kingdom 40.0% America 28.3% Canada 2.2% Far East 16.3%  
Europe 7.5% Australia 2.2% Africa 2.5%

The Foreign and Colonial Investment Trust Co. Ltd.,  
General Investors and Trustees, Ltd.,  
F. & C. Euronorm Ltd.,  
Cernery Fund S.A.,  
The Cardinal Investment Trust Ltd.,  
Alliance Investment Co. Ltd.,  
Foreign and National Investment Fund

7/2 Laurence Pountney Hill, London EC4R 0BA











## Authorized Un

ASST Flk's	Gross Div. %	Yld %	P/R
35 +1	3.0	8.6	9.2
05 —	7.5	7.1	5.6
43 -1	4.9	3.5	9.5
22 —	0.9	4.2	5.4
64 —	12.0	18.8	—
61 —	4.5	7.4	11.8

[illegible]

1 month	9 1/2-9 3/4	2 months	9 3/4-10
3 months	9 3/4-10	3 months	10-10 1/2
6 months	10-10 1/2	6 months	10 1/2-10 3/4
9 months	10 1/2-10 3/4	9 months	10 3/4-11
1 year	10 3/4-11	1 year	11-11 1/2
2 years	11-11 1/2	2 years	11 1/2-11 3/4
3 years	11 1/2-11 3/4	3 years	11 3/4-12
4 years	11 3/4-12	4 years	12-12 1/2
5 years	12-12 1/2	5 years	12 1/2-12 3/4
6 years	12 1/2-12 3/4	6 years	12 3/4-13
7 years	12 3/4-13	7 years	13-13 1/2
8 years	13-13 1/2	8 years	13 1/2-13 3/4
9 years	13 1/2-13 3/4	9 years	13 3/4-14
10 years	13 3/4-14	10 years	14-14 1/2
11 years	14-14 1/2	11 years	14 1/2-14 3/4
12 years	14 1/2-14 3/4	12 years	14 3/4-15
13 years	14 3/4-15	13 years	15-15 1/2
14 years	15-15 1/2	14 years	15 1/2-15 3/4
15 years	15 1/2-15 3/4	15 years	15 3/4-16
16 years	15 3/4-16	16 years	16-16 1/2
17 years	16-16 1/2	17 years	16 1/2-16 3/4
18 years	16 1/2-16 3/4	18 years	16 3/4-17
19 years	16 3/4-17	19 years	17-17 1/2
20 years	17-17 1/2	20 years	17 1/2-17 3/4
21 years	17 1/2-17 3/4	21 years	17 3/4-18
22 years	17 3/4-18	22 years	18-18 1/2
23 years	18-18 1/2	23 years	18 1/2-18 3/4
24 years	18 1/2-18 3/4	24 years	18 3/4-19
25 years	18 3/4-19	25 years	19-19 1/2
26 years	19-19 1/2	26 years	19 1/2-19 3/4
27 years	19 1/2-19 3/4	27 years	19 3/4-20
28 years	19 3/4-20	28 years	20-20 1/2
29 years	20-20 1/2	29 years	20 1/2-20 3/4
30 years	20 1/2-20 3/4	30 years	20 3/4-21
31 years	20 3/4-21	31 years	21-21 1/2
32 years	21-21 1/2	32 years	21 1/2-21 3/4
33 years	21 1/2-21 3/4	33 years	21 3/4-22
34 years	21 3/4-22	34 years	22-22 1/2
35 years	22-22 1/2	35 years	22 1/2-22 3/4
36 years	22 1/2-22 3/4	36 years	22 3/4-23
37 years	22 3/4-23	37 years	23-23 1/2
38 years	23-23 1/2	38 years	23 1/2-23 3/4
39 years	23 1/2-23 3/4	39 years	23 3/4-24
40 years	23 3/4-24	40 years	24-24 1/2
41 years	24-24 1/2	41 years	24 1/2-24 3/4
42 years	24 1/2-24 3/4	42 years	24 3/4-25
43 years	24 3/4-25	43 years	25-25 1/2
44 years	25-25 1/2	44 years	25 1/2-25 3/4
45 years	25 1/2-25 3/4	45 years	25 3/4-26
46 years	25 3/4-26	46 years	26-26 1/2
47 years	26-26 1/2	47 years	26 1/2-26 3/4
48 years	26 1/2-26 3/4	48 years	26 3/4-27
49 years	26 3/4-27	49 years	27-27 1/2
50 years	27-27 1/2	50 years	27 1/2-27 3/4
51 years	27 1/2-27 3/4	51 years	27 3/4-28
52 years	27 3/4-28	52 years	28-28 1/2
53 years	28-28 1/2	53 years	28 1/2-28 3/4
54 years	28 1/2-28 3/4	54 years	28 3/4-29
55 years	28 3/4-29	55 years	29-29 1/2
56 years	29-29 1/2	56 years	29 1/2-29 3/4
57 years	29 1/2-29 3/4	57 years	29 3/4-30
58 years	29 3/4-30	58 years	30-30 1/2
59 years	30-30 1/2	59 years	30 1/2-30 3/4
60 years	30 1/2-30 3/4	60 years	30 3/4-31
61 years	30 3/4-31	61 years	31-31 1/2
62 years	31-31 1/2	62 years	31 1/2-31 3/4
63 years	31 1/2-31 3/4	63 years	31 3/4-32
64 years	31 3/4-32	64 years	32-32 1/2
65 years	32-32 1/2	65 years	32 1/2-32 3/4
66 years	32 1/2-32 3/4	66 years	32 3/4-33
67 years	32 3/4-33	67 years	33-33 1/2
68 years	33-33 1/2		

Afr Michael Nolan, QC, and Mr Brian Dawson, QC, to the Crown; Mr J. R. Edwards, QC, to the bank; and Mr J. R. Gardiner for the bank.

**MR JUSTICE WALTON**, reading his judgment, said that the case raised a question of the proper treatment of profits earned from bills, including promissory notes, discounted or bought by a bank and then resold on the open market.

The taxpayer bank had been incorporated in 1967 by a consortium of five national banks to provide medium-term finance in western European countries. The companies by way of loans running from two to 10 years. Its business was not that of a clearing bank, and it was not to be included in current accounts so as to qualify for bank status. Its business did include the discounting or purchasing of bills, and the proceeds went all over the world. Usually the bank held such bills until maturity but on occasion sold them prior to maturity. There was a large number of such sales, and the turnover available to the bank for such business. The amount of profit the bank might make on such sales was not known until after the bills were either sold or reached maturity.

Annual accounts of the bank were drawn up in the normal way, and the profits of the discounting banks and a fractional part of the profits expected to be made if its bills were held until maturity were included in its accounts were not changed in form for presentation to the In-

2615,080; December, 1969, to £281,478; December, 1970, to £281,478; December, 1971, to £281,478. The decision of the Crown now appealed.

For the bank it was argued that it was a cardinal principle of income tax law that profits of an assessable profit, a profit was not to be taxed until it had been realized. Moreover, neither profit nor loss should be ascertained by ascertaining profit and that accordingly no part of any unrealized profit on maturity of bills should be included in the accounts for tax purposes for the accounting periods in question.

For the Crown, Mr Dawson agreed with a part of the argument put forward but contended that the accounts, as drawn up by the bank, did not follow the accounting practice, showed the correct amounts of assessable profits for tax purposes. Further, there was no dispute, either in law or in accountancy practice between earning interest and earning accountancy profits.

Lordship said that the agreed reductions in the figures arrived at by the commissioners were starting of course, over a period of the whole of the year on any bill must be caught; but by postponing liability the bank obviously improved its cash flow, and that was what the case was all about.

The crux of the case lay in the Crown's submission that there was no such thing as an assessable interest and earning discount. However, at the end of the day

assuasive the Crown's argument that it was a reasonable contention that a bank which had prepared its accounts on a conventional basis to put forward the submission that the profits were anticipated profits. For that was precisely what accounts prepared on a conventional basis did. Accounts so prepared were much better economic indicators than were tax accounts as they showed the true state of making an economic profit for its shareholders.

If one asked, as pure matter of fact, did the bank make a profit out of the purchase of a bill, the only possible answer was when it was either sold or held to maturity. If the answer had been correct and no part of the anticipated profit on maturity fees was to be included in the bank's profits for the years of assessment in question.

There had been a last and slight modification put forward for the bank, namely, that the bills constituted stock-in-trade and should be treated as such. The profit on the sale of the bills. The commissioners had made no findings on that point. His Lordship thought that the matter was purely of fact, and he had seen material he would have minimized it to the commissioners.

The appeal was dismissed with costs.

**Solicitors:** Solicitor of Inland Revenue; Travers Smith, Bratton Wake & Co.

1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35	2035-36	2036-37	2037-38	2038-39	2039-40	2040-41	2041-42	2042-43	2043-44	2044-45	2045-46	2046-47	2047-48	2048-49	2049-50	2050-51	2051-52	2052-53	2053-54	2054-55	2055-56	2056-57	2057-58	2058-59	2059-60	2060-61	2061-62	2062-63	2063-64	2064-65	2065-66	2066-67	2067-68	2068-69	2069-70	2070-71	2071-72	2072-73	2073-74	2074-75	2075-76	2076-77	2077-78	2078-79	2079-80	2080-81	2081-82	2082-83	2083-84	2084-85	2085-86	2086-87	2087-88	2088-89	2089-90	2090-91	2091-92	2092-93	2093-94	2094-95	2095-96	2096-97	2097-98	2098-99	2099-00	2100-01	2101-02	2102-03	2103-04	2104-05	2105-06	2106-07	2107-08	2108-09	2109-10	2110-11	2111-12	2112-13	2113-14	2114-15	2115-16	2116-17	2117-18	2118-19	2119-20	2120-21	2121-22	2122-23	2123-24	2124-25	2125-26	2126-27	2127-28	2128-29	2129-30	2130-31	2131-32	2132-33	2133-34	2134-35	2135-36	2136-37	2137-38	2138-39	2139-40	2140-41	2141-42	2142-43	2143-44	2144-45	2145-46	2146-47	2147-48	2148-49	2149-50	2150-51	2151-52	2152-53	2153-54	2154-55	2155-56	2156-57	2157-58	2158-59	2159-60	2160-61	2161-62	2162-63	2163-64	2164-65	2165-66	2166-67	2167-68	2168-69	2169-70	2170-71	2171-72	2172-73	2173-74	2174-75	2175-76	2176-77	2177-78	2178-79	2179-80	2180-81	2181-82	2182-83	2183-84	2184-85	2185-86	2186-87	2187-88	2188-89	2189-90	2190-91	2191-92	2192-93	2193-94	2194-95	2195-96	2196-97	2197-98	2198-99	2199-00	2200-01	2201-02	2202-03	2203-04	2204-05	2205-06	2206-07	2207-08	2208-09	2209-10	2210-11	2211-12	2212-13	2213-14	2214-15	2215-16	2216-17	2217-18	2218-19	2219-20	2220-21	2221-22	2222-23	2223-24	2224-25	2225-26	2226-27	2227-28	2228-29	2229-30	2230-31	2231-32	2232-33	2233-34	2234-35	2235-36	2236-37	2237-38	2238-39	2239-40	2240-41	2241-42	2242-43	2243-44	2244-45	2245-46	2246-47	2247-48	2248-49	2249-50	2250-51	2251-52	2252-53	2253-54	2254-55	2255-56	2256-57	2257-58	2258-59	2259-60	2260-61	2261-62	2262-63	2263-64	2264-65	2265-66	2266-67	2267-68	2268-69	2269-70	2270-71	2271-72	2272-73	2273-74	2274-75	2275-76	2276-77	2277-78	2278-79	2279-80	2280-81	2281-82	2282-83	2283-84	2284-85	2285-86	2286-87	2287-88	2288-89	2289-90	2290-91	2291-92	2292-93	2293-94	2294-95	2295-96	2296-97	2297-98	2298-99	2299-00	2300-01	2301-02	2302-03	2303-04	2304-05	2305-06	2306-07	2307-08	2308-09	2309-10	2310-
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[Judgment delivered March 5]

A variation of a settlement signed by Sir Arthur and Lady Variation by Trusts Act 1958, whereby a beneficiary relinquished her life interest in the income of a trust fund, was a conveyance operating as a substitution of property capable of valuation, and liable to stamp duty by virtue of section 74 of the Finance Act (1909) and 140.

His Lordship so held in dismissing an appeal by the taxpayer, Sir Jules Thorn, and the trustees of a settlement made by him, from the decision of the Special Commissioner that ad valorem stamp duty was payable in the amount of £1,000.

Section 74(1) reads: "Any conveyance or transfer operating as a voluntary disposition inter vivos shall be chargeable with the same stamp duty as if it were a conveyance or transfer on sale, with the substitution in each case of the value of the property conveyed or transferred for the amount or value of the consideration for the sale."

Mr. J. M. Price for the taxpayer, Mr. J. Schellie, Q.C., and Mr. Peter Gibson for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE WALTON said that, in 1947 the taxpayer settled 50,000 £s. shares in his company, Variation Trusts, on a trust for his son for his wife and children. The income was to be paid to his wife during her life, and thereafter to his children. The principal of the fund was to be paid to his son for life and then held for such of his children or remotest issue as might be entitled to the income. The other members of the

It represented a sinking duck from the point of view of death duties. Accordingly, the taxpayer's wife arranged to be bought out of her interest, which was sanctioned by the court whereby she relinquished her life interest in the daughter's moiety of the fund, and the daughter relinquished her life interest in 20 per cent of her moiety and had a discretionary interest in the remainder.

The order, setting out the arrangement, was presented to the commissioners to adjudicate on whether stamp duty was payable. It was the opinion that the order was, for the purposes of section 74, a conveyance attracting duty.

Before his Lordship the taxpayer agreed that the order amounted to a "conveyance operating as a voluntary disposition". However, it was argued that all that had been transferred were the rights of his wife under the settlement. Those rights, counsel contended, were incapable of valuation. Further, the effect of the court's consent to the arrangement was, at the highest, to convey to the daughter a beneficial interest in the property of a person who had or might have a discretionary interest in the trust fund. Thus there were, he said, a number of voluntary dispositions that would not be chargeable with the Stamp Act, 1891, ensured that each of those dispositions should be separately assessed for stamp duty. It was, he said, a "sinking shadow" as to have only a nominal value.

For the Crown it was said that what was being done was to give to the wife the whole of the wife's

the income was necessary, why they were doing together by the arrangement was to respect of the arrangement and not their own separate interests.

There was no answer to this analysis. The relevant income had been disposed of as a voluntary disposition of obtaining the consent. What the taxpayer was attempting to do was to split up the entirety of the income into individual parcels and to have each parcel valued so the totality of what had been disposed of was also valueless. That was not the case as the wife was dealing with the entire composite whole. Since in *Nelson* (1928) Ch 920 it had been recognized that if persons joined together in transferring property, if they were entitled to do so, even if their own particular interests were insignificant.

The taxpayer had a second claim in respect of his daughter's disposition under the arrangement. It was said that stamp duty was not payable as the daughter was adequately compensated for the surrender of her interest by reason of her taking a discretionary interest under the scheme. The trust was not a bona fide sale. On the matter objectively, the daughter was in fact making a satisfactory bargain. There was no question of the wife's interest being inferred; the whole initiative for the arrangement emanated from the taxpayer's wife.

The appeal was dismissed. Solicitors: Messrs. Gowers; Solicitor-General: Gowers; Solicitor-General: Gowers; Solicitor-General: Gowers.

[Judgment delivered March 27]

It is desirable but not essential that witnesses refresh their memory from a written statement before giving evidence the defence should be so informed. That decision was made in *Worley v Bentley* (*The Times*, February 26) was restated by the Court of Appeal when allowing an appeal against a February 23 appeal by Steven Westwell against his conviction at Preston Crown Court of murdering a woman (Judge Vos) of assault occasioning actual bodily harm. He had been sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

Mr A. R. D. Studdart for the appellant; Mr A. C. Jolly for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE BRIDGE said that the events on which the charge was founded occurred on December 14, 1974. The witnesses gave evidence at the trial after having given written statements to the police soon after; before the trial began, nearly 11 months later, some of them were asked to refresh their memories from those statements. In the trial, the statements which they made at the time of the events to which they were to testify. On the other hand, there was no rule that witnesses must refresh their memories from statements before giving evidence. There might be cases where there was reason to suppose that the witness would need to do so for the purpose in wanting to see his statement and it was in the interests of justice that he should be permitted the opportunity.

However, in most cases and particularly where, as often happened, there was a long interval between the events and the trial, the interests of justice were likely to be best served and witnesses allowed to refresh their memories before giving evidence, they were allowed to refresh their recollection by reference to their own statements made at or near to the events in question. Neither in the approved statement in the Home Office circular, nor in the judgment of the majority, is it laid down that the prosecution

the present appeal, but it is clear that the court called for the decision of the Divisional Court in *Worley v Bentley* in which the court held that the defence should be informed that witnesses should be permitted to refresh their memories.

There Lordships agreed. In some cases the fact that a witness has read his statement before going to court may be relevant to the weight to be attached to his evidence and such questions might be raised to the jury. It is not the duty of the judge in ignorance of the fact. Accordingly, if the prosecution was aware of the facts, it was incumbent on the witnesses it would be appropriate to inform the defence, but if for any reason that was not done the court could itself be the ground for acquittal.

The judge's ruling was right and the appeal must be dismissed.

Solicitors—Registrars—Criminal Cases—*R. P. Saworth & Co., Ltd.*, Nettle, Blackburn.

Cause Act, 1973, which requires notice of the application to be served on the respondent, and the person who should be a respondent. Accordingly, the Court of Appeal allowed an appeal by a husband from an order of Mr Justice Cunniff-Brace that the wife's marriage to him in Nigeria was a valid marriage.

LORD JUSTICE ORMEROD said that the wife petitioned for a declaration that her marriage to the husband was a valid marriage. The husband opposed the petition, and after a hearing lasting two days Mr Justice Cunniff-Brace gave judgment in favour of the wife. The husband now appealed. The petition had not been served on the Attorney General.

Unusually nobody drew the judge's attention to the provisions of sections 21(b) and 22 of the Supreme Court of Judicature (Consolidation) Act, 1925, which gave the Attorney General jurisdiction on the High Court to make declarations of legitimacy and

Wales could apply by or on behalf to the High Court for a declaration that his marriage was a valid marriage, and by subsection (6) that a copy of the application and the affidavits accompanying it should be delivered to the Attorney General, who should be a respondent.

It was plain that the Attorney General was necessary party to any proceedings under the provisions of sections 21(b) and 22, and a declaration could not be made in his absence. In *Aldrich v General* [1958] P 281 (1 Q.B. 482) it had been held that there was no jurisdiction to grant declarations of legitimacy or of validity of marriage otherwise than in accordance with the provisions of the section. The point in *Royden on Divorce* (12th ed, 1974, pp.303-304, para 8) was misleadingly stated. Originally there was no alternative but to appeal on the ground that the proceedings were void ab initio.

Lord Justice Bridge and Sir

of the profits expected to be made if the bills were held there were no discount between earning interest and earning discount. However, at the end of the day the Crown's submission that there was no distinction between earning interest and earning discount. However, at the end of the day the Crown's submission that there was no distinction between earning interest and earning discount. However, at the end of the day the Crown's submission that there was no distinction between earning interest and earning discount. However, at the end of the day the Crown's submission that there was no distinction between earning interest and earning discount. However, at the end of the day the Crown's submission that there was no distinction between earning interest and earning discount. However, at the end of the day the Crown's submission that there was no distinction between earning interest and earning discount. 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## Stock Exchange Prices

## Prices marked down

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 8; Dealings End, Mar 19. 5 Contango Day, Mar 22. Settlement Day, Mar 30  
 5 Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

1976		1975		1974		1973		1972		1971		1970		1969		1968		1967		1966		1965		1964		1963		1962		1961		1960		1959		1958		1957		1956		1955		1954		1953		1952		1951		1950		1949		1948		1947		1946		1945		1944		1943		1942		1941		1940		1939		1938		1937		1936		1935		1934		1933		1932		1931		1930		1929		1928		1927		1926		1925		1924		1923		1922		1921		1920		1919		1918		1917		1916		1915		1914		1913		1912		1911		1910		1909		1908		1907		1906		1905		1904		1903		1902		1901		1900		1899		1898		1897		1896		1895		1894		1893		1892		1891		1890		1889		1888		1887		1886		1885		1884		1883		1882		1881		1880		1879		1878		1877		1876		1875		1874		1873		1872		1871		1870		1869		1868		1867		1866		1865		1864		1863		1862		1861		1860		1859		1858		1857		1856		1855		1854		1853		1852		1851		1850		1849		1848		1847		1846		1845		1844		1843		1842		1841		1840		1839		1838		1837		1836		1835		1834		1833		1832		1831		1830		1829		1828		1827		1826		1825		1824		1823		1822		1821		1820		1819		1818		1817		1816		1815		1814		1813		1812		1811		1810		1809		1808		1807		1806		1805		1804		1803		1802		1801		1800		1799		1798		1797		1796		1795		1794		1793		1792		1791		1790		1789		1788		1787		1786		1785		1784		1783		1782		1781		1780		1779		1778		1777		1776		1775		1774		1773		1772		1771		1770		1769		1768		1767		1766		1765		1764		1763		1762		1761		1760		1759		1758		1757		1756		1755		1754		1753		1752		1751		1750		1749		1748		1747		1746		1745		1744		1743		1742		1741		1740		1739		1738		1737		1736		1735		1734		1733		1732		1731		1730		1729		1728		1727		1726		1725		1724		1723		1722		1721		1720		1719		1718		1717		1716		1715		1714		1713		1712		1711		1710		1709		1708		1707		1706		1705		1704		1703		1702		1701		1700		1699		1698		1697		1696		1695		1694		1693		1692		1691		1690		1689		1688		1687		1686		1685		1684		1683		1682		1681		1680		1679		1678		1677		1676		1675		1674		1673		1672		1671		1670		1669		1668		1667		1666		1665		1664		1663		1662		1661		1660		1659		1658		1657		1656		1655		1654		1653		1652		1651		1650		1649		1648		1647		1646		1645		1644		1643		1642		1641		1640		1639		1638		1637		1636		1635		1634		1633		1632		1631		1630		1629		1628		1627		1626		1625		1624		1623		1622		1621		1620		1619		1618		1617		1616		1615		1614		1613		1612		1611		1610		1609		1608		1607		1606		1605		1604		1603		1602		1601		1600		1599		1598		1597		1596		1595		1594		1593		1592		1591		1590		1589		1588		1587		1586		1585		1584		1583		1582		1581		1580		1579		1578		1577		1576		1575		1574		1573		1572		1571		1570		1569		1568		1567		1566		1565		1564		1563		1562		1561		1560		1559		1558		1557		1556		1555		1554		1553		1552		1551		1550		1549		1548		1547		1546		1545		1544		1543		1542		1541		1540		1539		1538		1537		1536		1535		1534		1533		1532		1531		1530		1529		1528		1527		1526		1525		1524		1523		1522		1521		1520		1519		1518		1517		1516		1515		1514		1513		1512		1511		1510		1509		1508		1507		1506		1505		1504		1503		1502		1501		1500		1499		1498		1497		1496		1495		1494		1493		1492		1491		1490		1489		1488		1487		1486		1485		1484		1483		1482		1481		1480		1479		1478		1477		1476		1475		1474		1473		1472		1471		1470		1469		1468		1467		1466		1465		1464		1463		1462		1461		1460		1459		1458		1457		1456		1455		1454		1453		1452		1451		1450		1449		1448		1447		1446		1445		1444		1443		1442		1441		1440		1439		1438		1437		1436		1435		1434		1433		1432		1431		1430		1429		1428		1427		1426		1425		1424		1423		1422		1421		1420		1419		1418		1417		1416		1415		1414		1413		1412		1411		1410		1409		1408		1407		1406		1405		1404		1403		1402		1401		1400		1399		1398		1397		1396		1395		1394		1393		1392		1391		1390		1389		1388		1387		1386		1385		1384		1383		1382		1381		1380		1379		1378		1377		1376		1375		1374		1373		1372		1371		1370		1369		1368		1367		1366		1365		1364		1363		1362		1361		1360		1359		1358		1357		1356		1355		1354		1353		1352		1351		1350		1349		1348		1347		1346		1345		1344		1343		1342		1341		1340		1339		1338		1337		1336		1335		1334		1333		1332		1331		1330		1329		1328		1327		1326		1325		1324		1323		1322		1321		1320		1319		1318		1317		1316		1315		1314		1313		1312		1311		1310		1309		1308		1307		1306		1305		1304		1303	
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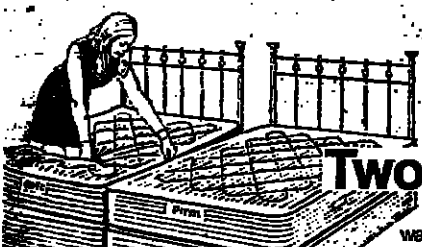
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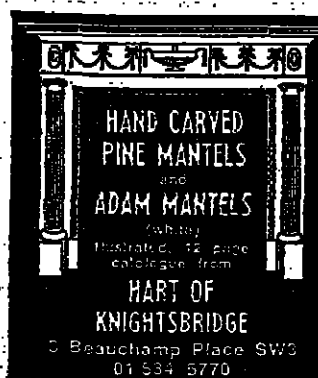
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**Chesterfields**

**Dining Suites**

**Nest of Tables**

**BARGAINS FOR ALL**

**NO DEPOSIT EASY TERMS**

**Book Cases**

**Desks**

**CENTRE REPRODUCTIONS**

OPEN SUNDAY 9.30-2  
MON-FRI 9.30-6

59 GREAT EASTERN ST LONDON EC2 01 739 7270

**LOUNGE SUITES-GALORE!**

VISIT OUR SIX SHOWROOMS OF BEAUTIFUL LOUNGE SUITES AT GREAT DISCOUNT PRICES (Credit Facilities Available)

**THIS SUNDAY, 14 MARCH**

9.30 a.m.-2 p.m.

**MONDAY-FRIDAY 9 a.m.-5.30 p.m.**

**TRADE DIRECT FURNITURE SERVICE**

283 Hackney Road London E2 Tel: 01-733 5125

**SAVE MONEY ON KITCHENS & BATHROOMS**

COME ALONG AND SEE OUR EXTENSIVE RANGE OF THE LATEST DISPLAYS IN S.E. LONDON. COMPARE OUR PRICES WITH THE BEST IN THE AREA. We have the lowest prices in the area. Free information on request.

**G. P. HART & SONS LTD.**

Newham Terrace, Hoxley Road, S.E.11. Telephone: 01-225 5355 (4 lines)

**SHOE CADDY**

ONLY £1.35

Foot & Packing. Compact design. Holds 12 pairs of shoes. Free information on request.

**ROL-A-COASTERS**

ONLY £2.25

450 Post & Packing. Free information on request.

**ADJUSTABLE RAD-RACK**

3 back to day your clothes on, expanding from 20" to 30". Strong right construction with adjustable brackets to be used over any size of radiator. Free information on request.

**GUTTER MAINTENANCE**

Richardson & Sons, Dept. T11/37, 170 High St. Kildare, Essex.

**Bedlam**

Hey! Lots of new beds in our 76 brochure S.A.E. Please

**2 FOR THE SPACE OF ONE**

"It's like having a bed AND a Chest of Drawers."

Double or Single Slatted Base Beds with optional storage drawers. Foam or Spring Interior Mattresses to Order.

**STACKING BEDS**

Side by side or on top of each other.

**THE RELYON CONVERTA "SEVENTY" SOFA**

1 Double or 2 Single Beds

**BEDLAM, W.8**

114 Kensington Church St. London, W8 01-225 5360  
Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon. to Sat. Wed. till 8 p.m.

**BEDLAM, S.W.6**

811 Fulham Rd./Mimosa St. London, S.W.6 01-731 2585  
Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon. to Sat.

**Readers' Protection Scheme Mail Order Advertising**

With effect from April 1, 1976, national newspapers have set up a Readers' Protection Scheme to protect readers from mail order advertisers who fail to deliver goods or services. This arrangement does not apply to any advertiser who is not a member of the scheme. The scheme is free of charge to readers. The scheme is free of charge to readers. The scheme is free of charge to readers.

**UP TO 40% OFF**

**Fantastic offers**

**MARBLE ARCH TYPEWRITER**

MADE IN AUSTRIA. Compact design. Free information on request.

**The timeless beauty of solid pine**

Traditional craft designs that will never date, in hand-finished solid pine.

Delivered to your door fully assembled. At prices at least 40% lower than in the shops. A wide range with money returned if not satisfied.

Send for FREE colour brochure

**HAMLETT**

Solid Pine Furniture

Hamlett Furniture Ltd., Dept. U, Ironbridge Road, West Drayton, Middlesex UB8 3JY  
Tel: Chipping Sodbury 315439 or West Drayton 482322 (24hr answering service)

**TELEPHONE AMPLIFIER**

Latest transistorised portable battery operated telephone amplifier with 40% increase in volume. Free information on request.

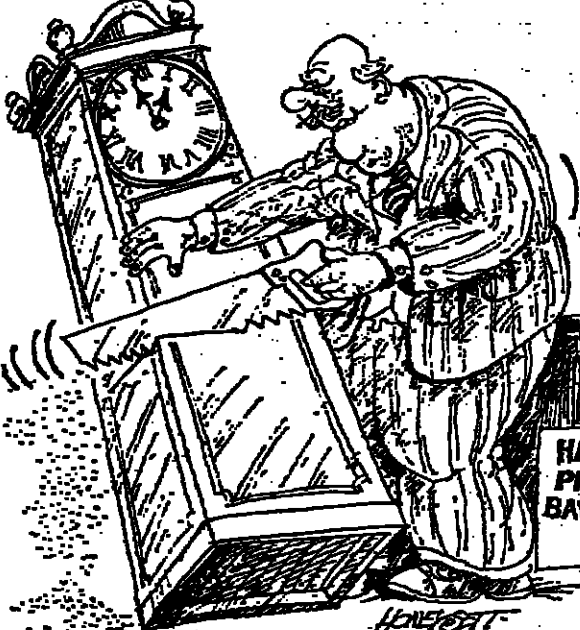
**ASH MAIL TROLLEY**

Cleaning with high impact polystyrene. Free information on request.

**TELEPHONE AMPLIFIER**

Latest transistorised portable battery operated telephone amplifier with 40% increase in volume. Free information on request.

## Under £50 Sale.



Everything must go!

There are probably many things in your home which you'd like to dispose of and Times readers would like to obtain. There are innumerable items from:

Clocks to carpets, Pianos to Porcelain, Hatstands to heirlooms.

Or just general bric-a-brac. Whatever it is, as private advertisers you now have the opportunity to dispose of any item valued at under £50 through The Times Personal Columns For Sale category. The cost is only £1 per line - half our normal price, and our normal money saving five insertions for the price of four still applies.

This scheme is exclusive to private advertisers and is only available on the basis of one item valued at under £50 per advertisement. The price of the item must be mentioned in your advertisement.

Points to watch to make your advertisements more successful. You want replies to your advertisement,

but not wasted replies, how can you aid this?

It's easy, by giving as much relevant information as possible about the item you wish to sell. Put yourself in the position of a purchaser once again, why did you buy this item yourself? Was it the shape or the colour?

Was it something unique which captured your imagination and compelled you to buy?

To create a mental picture for purchasers, use the check list below to help make your advertisement more successful:-

- (a) Type of article
- (b) Make
- (c) Size/shape
- (d) Material
- (e) Weight
- (f) Colour
- (g) Age/condition
- (h) Cost when new

2. State the cost. Readers are more likely to reply if they know the price.

3. Save money with our series plan of five insertions for the price of four. When you have sold the item, ring us to cancel future insertions and you will only be charged for the advertisements published. Remember the fifth insertion is free of charge.

4. Give your address and telephone number, the quicker the buyer can contact you, the sooner the item is sold.

Write your advertisement in the area below (minimum size two lines) allowing 28 characters, including word spaces per line. If a box number is required allow for an extra 11 characters, plus £1.50 box number charge. Then cut out the coupon and return it with a cheque or postal order, made out to Times Newspapers Ltd, to: The Post Section, ASA Dept. 4th Floor, The Times, PO Box 7, New Printing House Square, Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ.



Place your advertisement here (BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE)

Name of Sender \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No. \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Insertions Required \_\_\_\_\_



## General

AT MANY CENTRES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY  
FOR INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES AND GROUPS

Excellent self-catering holiday flats for 4-12 persons  
July and August, from £35 + VAT per week.

First-class hotel accommodation with private facilities  
South Coast, from £40 + VAT per night, 1st July and August  
pooling from £10 + VAT per week.

Bed and breakfast touring accommodation at many  
available during Easter and summer holiday periods. (Not  
suitable for groups), from £1 + VAT per night.

FOR BROCHURE CONTACT:

**UNIVERSITY HOLIDAYS LTD**  
Boroughgate House, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 1E  
Tel.: Sudbury (07473) 76250 (24hr. brochure m

**Special trains w  
Car.**

**MARCH 6th : F  
QUAY-PAIGTTO**  
**MARCH 13th : P  
ANNES-BLACKP**  
**MARCH 27th : T  
PLYMOUTH.**  
**APRIL 3rd : F  
BURY-LEANS**

BARRY BLAND  
 APRIL 24th - LYN  
 SOUTHPORT.  
 MAY 1st - CAROL  
 ROW-RAVELL  
 May 8th - BRIDGE  
 SWANSEA.  
 MAY 32nd - TOWN  
 MOUTH.  
 Full details are  
 from  
**SHAH'S TRAVEL**  
 62 PADDOCK  
 LONDON.  
 (01) 486 2547.  
 YOUR FRIENDS

**YOUR FRIENDLY AGENT**

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**QUEEN'S I  
SOUTH**

**WHY PAY LONDON**  
When you can  
social holiday  
repeated. Exam  
room with bath  
toilet, including  
English breakfast  
VAT for 7 day  
Panoramic view

Private  
apartment  
to bed,  
to all  
phone  
for

Pub.  
72793.  
Fal-  
Clifford  
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and  
as re-  
write  
details.  
haven,  
MER!  
merrol  
south.  
3

Pub. Malvern. C-  
lites. Sunford  
Sleeps 5, gas Ag  
fridge, log fire.  
£45 p.w.  
Available we  
30th, 27th Mar  
3rd 10th, 17th  
Sept. onwards.  
9551.

COTSWOLDS. Prr  
self-contained 11  
farmhouse. 3  
bedrooms, 3

**ESSEX FOR 1**  
blacksmith colt.  
Walden, sleeps  
naked, c.h.,  
available 1 m  
10th: £50 p.  
required.—Clave  
time.

---

**ESKDALE, Vacua**  
Jul' Rine Goude  
Walden, sleeps  
naked, c.h.,  
available 1 m  
10th: £50 p.  
required.—Clave  
time.

# SELLING

A cartoon illustration of a hand holding a newspaper titled 'THE TIMES'. The hand is shown from the wrist up, with fingers gripping the top edge of the paper. The newspaper is tilted slightly to the left. The drawing is in a simple, bold line style.

**Personal Column**  
Times For Sale column.  
last year there were 3  
items, from Bathroom  
sinks to Desks and Die  
easily find out as well  
with your phone number.

only. Experience has  
tissments for the cost  
the paper on the on  
one day to decide to b  
y, they might assume  
n't need today, they

reading the paper en  
trained team to help you

pt., The Times, P.O. Box  
ad, LONDON, WC1X 9

عن ابن أبي عمير

From the ordinary to the extraordinary, The Times For Sale column has an unrivalled reputation. For years now, advertisers, and last year there were 3 used this column to dispose of unwanted or unusual items, from Bathroom Bechsteins, Carpets to Candelabra and Curtains, Diamonds to Desks and Desks. They have found out how successful it can be. You can easily find out as well in the text of your advertisement below, together with your phone number will ring you with the cost of your advertisement.

- [illegible]

By using The Times, you reach over 1 million reading the paper on the week. There is also available to you a fully trained team to help you of the above points.

NAME.....

TEL. NO: .....

ADDRESS.....



Year	Percentage of Population Aged 65 and Over
1900	4.0
1910	4.5
1920	5.0
1930	5.5
1940	6.0
1950	6.5
1960	7.0
1970	7.5
1980	8.0
1990	8.5
2000	16.0

\* Cancellation

Address: The Classified Advertisement Dept., The Times, P.O. Box 100, New York, N.Y. 10036

NEW FINDING HOUSE Square, Gray's Inn Road, LONDON, W.C.1

*[Faint, illegible header information]*

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